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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Mandate For M. Laniel

THE vote of confidence which the French National Assembly has given Premier Laniel not only implies tacit approval of his Government's domestic and foreign policies, but enables France's foreign minister to attend the forthcoming Big Four conference fully empowered to present his nation's point of view on any matters which may arise. This too is of moment to the British and American delegates for it is essential that in dealing with broad fundamentals, the Western Allies should speak with a united voice. Whatever its shortcomings, the Bermuda conference undoubtedly produced a considerable measure of agreement between the Big Three as to the principles to be followed at the Berlin parleys, and this made it essential that it should be M. Laniel to represent France, thus eliminating any possibility of dissension among the Western delegates on essentials. By its action yesterday the French National Assembly has shown that, despite its bitter partisanship on many occasions, it is still capable of placing national interests first when the necessity arises. The vote of confidence was more than an endorsement of M. Laniel's policies; it represented a gesture of national solidarity on an issue of profound international importance, and at the same time it bolstered the nation's self-respect.

THIS has been a week of personal triumph for M. Laniel, for in addition to obtaining his confidence vote, he also has had the satisfaction of seeing the French Budget approved. The future of his Government, however, is still subject to a considerable number of factors. If any real measure of success is achieved at the Berlin conference, and if he can bring about an honourable armistice in Indo-China, he could expect to be swept back into power at the next elections, more particularly as he would assuredly win the firm support of the present wavering Moderates. His reiteration in the Assembly yesterday that his Government still desired to negotiate peace in Indo-China (but a peace that will ensure the independence of the Associated States) is certain to receive a popular response in France. Moreover, his disclosure that the country was heading for financial solvency and that an impressive recovery had been made from the financial crisis of last year, further enhances the prestige of himself and his political colleagues. His hardest problem, of course, is still to obtain ratification of the European Defence Community pact. But this too would probably become less formidable if the foreign ministers' conference produces positive and satisfactory results; or in the event of hostilities in Indo-China being brought to an end. The future holds big question marks for the Laniel Government, but at least it has been given a temporary mandate to forge ahead and tackle prime international problems in the manner M. Laniel deems best.

Officer Writes Suicide Note, Steals Then Crashes Military Plane

Lawton, Oklahoma, Jan. 6. An Army captain wrote a suicide note today, stole a small military plane and crashed it on the Rock Island railway track in the path of an approaching train.

State troopers tagged down the train this in time to prevent a smashing into the small L-10.

Army trooper. When they examined the plane, which lay on its back, but was not badly damaged, they found no trace of the missing captain. He had apparently escaped injury and walked away.

He was identified as Captain Harvey Collins, 25, of Topeka.

RUSSIA AGREES TO JOIN IN ATOMIC TALKS

Preliminary Discussions In Washington

Moscow, Jan. 6. Russia announced today she was ready to join the United States in preliminary discussions in Washington on the problem of atomic energy.

Mr Molotov gave the Soviet decision today to the American Ambassador, Mr Charles Bohlen.

An official communique issued by the Soviet Foreign Ministry said that Mr Georgi Zarubin, Soviet Ambassador in Washington, would represent the Russian Government at the preliminary talks. No date was given for the start of the meeting, though it was indicated this would precede the Foreign Ministers' conference on January 25.

The communique said the Washington talks would consist of an exchange of views on the procedure to be adopted in the eventual atomic energy negotiations. There would be a discussion on the time, place and agenda of the final meeting.

The communique was issued by the Soviet Foreign Ministry and prominently printed in Pravda and Izvestia.

The communique said: "The American Ambassador, C. Bohlen, visited V.M. Molotov on December 31, 1953, and told him that in connection with the statement of the Soviet Government of December 21 on President Eisenhower's speech of December 8, in which the Soviet Government expressed its readiness to take part in negotiations on the question of atomic energy, the Government of the United States wished to exchange views about procedure in connection with the above-mentioned negotiations and especially about the time, place and agenda."

"Ambassador Bohlen suggested that this exchange of views be carried out by the State Department of the United States of America and either the Soviet Ambassador in Washington or the Soviet representative in the United Nations before the Berlin conference of Foreign Ministers."

Paris, Jan. 6. The Soviet Union may raise the question of a truce in Indo-China during the forthcoming Big Four Foreign Ministers' conference in Berlin, diplomatic quarters said here tonight.

They noted that only today, Pravda, the Soviet Communist Party organ, stated that "the solution of the Indo-Chinese problem by peaceful means in the immediate future would assist the reduction of international tension."

French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault has no intention of broaching this question during the Berlin conference, a French Foreign Office spokesman said tonight.

The prime purpose of the Berlin conference was to reach a settlement on Austria and Germany, and the French Government considered that Berlin was not the proper place for a "fruitful examination" of the Indo-China question, he said.

Rugby Team Wiped Out In Plane Crash

Fifteen airmen returning to their base after playing in a Rugby football match were killed in an air crash 25 miles north-west of London last night. The only survivor of the disaster is seriously ill in hospital. The men were from the RAF Navigation School at Thorney Island, Portsmouth. They were returning there after playing in a Royal Air Force Rugby Cup tie. Rescue teams, working in falling snow, had recovered ten bodies last night. One of the injured died in hospital. The plane crashed into trees on a hill soon after taking off from Bovingdon, Hertfordshire. The front and the engines were torn off and the fuselage plunged on another 120 yards. Bodies were found all along the trail of the wreckage. Four or five of those aboard were the plane's crew. The others were members of a navigation school rugby football team.—Reuter.

Laniel Wins Vote Of Confidence

Paris, Jan. 6. The government of French Premier, M. Joseph Laniel, today won a resounding victory in the French National Assembly on a vote of confidence asked for by the French Conservative leader.

By 319 votes to 248, the Assembly agreed to accede to M. Laniel's request to postpone the debate on questions of government policy. M. Laniel had earlier stated that the vote would be one of confidence in his government. A total of 568 votes were cast.

The Premier's majority was made up as follows: A total of 83 MRP (Christian Democrats) out of 89; 69 URAS (former de Gaulle) out of 78; 49 Independents out of 54; 33 Radicals out of 70; 29 ARS out of 34; 28 Independent Peasants; 20 Democratic and Socialist Union of Resistance out of 25; 1 overseas Independent out of 15.

M. Laniel's victory, which followed the rejection of his request to resign by both former President Vincent Auriol and the in-coming President Rene Coty, was obtained with the support of the URAS (former de Gaulle) group. The de Gaulleists, who had made strong reservations when the European question had been debated, rallied behind M. Laniel today—a factor that gave the French government a mandate to take to Berlin for the forthcoming four-power talks.

It was understood that a few Radicals had joined the Socialists and Communists in opposition to the Premier. M. Laniel asked for the vote of confidence following his defence of government policy before the Assembly. He asked the French delegation at the Berlin conference would have the backing of Parliament.

A spokesman for the de Gaulle group, M. Raymond Schmitz, told the Assembly that it had reconvened from a two-hour recess that the overwhelming majority of his group had decided to vote in favour of the postponement of the debate asked for by the government.

He told the packed Assembly that the vote would be given because the absence of a French government might prevent France from taking part in the four-power conference in Berlin or could even force a postponement of that conference.

Rallying behind the powerful personality of the French Premier, today were the MRP (Christian Democrats) and the moderate and right-wing Independents. Joining the de Gaulleists were about 30 Radicals, most of whom found the Premier's statement on French policy too optimistic and too critical of his Radical predecessor, M. Rene Mayer.

Other factions which gave the French government a powerful mandate to take to Berlin included the de Gaulle splinter group (ARS) and the Democratic and Socialist Union (URAS). It was understood that the overseas Independents had abstained.

M. Laniel gained his vote despite intense opposition to France's participation in a European defence community, particularly from the URAS.

Previously, M. Laniel had asked for a position of confidence for two consecutive sessions—either full support

Political Confusion In Italy

Likely Effect Of Gov't Collapse

Rome, Jan. 6. Italy was tonight headed for a period of political confusion after yesterday's collapse of Premier Giuseppe Pella's Government, according to commentators of all Parties.

The President of the Republic, Signor Luigi Einaudi, will begin his search for a new Prime Minister on Thursday. His consultations with political leaders of all parties are expected to last till Saturday.

An agency, reputed to reflect the views of former Premier Alcide De Gasperi, leader of the country's biggest Party, the Christian Democrats, wrote tonight "we must expect a period of confusion that may be long and dangerous, and that must result in one of two things: 1. Either an emergency Government, or 2. New elections."

The agency added that the present Italian Parliament, elected in general elections last June, could produce no stable government.

In the new Parliament, the sharply-divided centre Democratic Parties only slightly outnumber the combined opposition of Communist and left and neo-Fascist right.

After his consultations with Party leaders, the President is expected to invite a Christian Democrat leader to try to form Italy's third Government in six months.

FIRST CHOICE

Commentators tonight thought he would first pick on the leader of the left-wing of the Party, 45-year-old Amintore Fanfani, suggesting that he attempt a coalition with the three small centre Parties—Social Democrats, Republicans and Liberals.

But the creation of such a coalition might encounter serious difficulties from the Christian Democrat right-wing. This wing's candidate for the Presidency is expected to be Signor Attilio Piccioni, 61, lawyer and Party organizer who failed to set up a government last August. Any government he headed would depend for survival in Parliament on the support of the strongly right-wing Monarchists.

Signor De Gasperi, the "grand old man" of the Party, is reported to believe the only way out of the crisis is new elections.

But other Party members point to the claims of the Communists and their Allies that new elections might make them the biggest political force in the country.

In the last elections, the extreme left-wing following jumped from seven to nine and a half millions in an exceptionally high poll of 23 millions.

The left-wing is generally expected to gain again in immediate elections, while the Democratic Parties, after their failure to produce a new coherent policy, would have difficulty in driving their adherents to the polls.

In addition, all the Centre Parties are reported to be suffering from severe financial difficulties as a result of the money they spent in the last campaign.—Reuter.

8-Year-Old Girl Kidnapped

London, Jan. 6. An eight-year-old girl, who reported to have been kidnapped in Brighton, Sussex, today after her mother had received threatening letters.

The girl, Colin Brayans, was leaving school when an unknown woman was said to have caught her by the arm in front of a surprised school mistress and to have dragged her to a car which drove off immediately in the direction of London.

Strikes Now Inevitable

London, Jan. 6. Britain's key industries will suffer from "guerilla" strike action by electrical workers, culminating in a national 24-hour strike because employers and workers cannot agree on their overtime rate.

Ministry of Labour officials who took over when the parties announced that they could not agree, failed to heal the breach over the higher pay claims for 40,000 workers.—China Mail Special.

Police Break Jewellery Racket

Manila, Jan. 6. Constabulary and postal operatives today broke a flourishing racket involving the illegal importation of jewellery from Hongkong through the mails by alien businessmen with Filipino posing as dummies.

The lid was removed with the arrest today of a Chinese trader and his Filipino dummy while in the act of receiving two parcels from Hongkong estimated to cost more than \$15,000 in assorted jewellery.

Seized from the pair were 714 pairs of ear-rings, 676 pairs of automatic silver car-rings, 444 pieces of gold-plated fancy hair-pins, 17 pieces of gold-plated ladies' bracelets and 17 pieces of fancy rings. The estimated cost was \$15,000.

It was stated that the parcels, intended for commercial purposes, were declared as gifts.

"Early" air hours after the arrests, constabulary units cracked open a multi-million peso washed-stamp syndicate operating on a nationwide scale.

Arrested were a lawyer and drugstore owner believed to be the distributors of washed stamps.

Constabulary authorities said they already knew the mastermind of the syndicate behind the racket which collected used stamps from government and private firms and washed them chemically to be re-sold to the public.—France-Press.

HAD A DAY OUT

Auckland, Jan. 6. Allan Renote, 23-year-old driver, had a day out at a picnic here with two dozen bottles of beer.

He became drunk, the Auckland Police Court was told, used obscene language in a crowd, kicked a soldier in the ribs, and then set fire to the area.

The fire brigade worked for an hour to quell the flames. He was fined £23.—Reuter.

BEARS WATCHING

Allied officials here attached importance to this new point, though they said the "party line" expounded in Neues Deutschland mainly for internal East German consumption, did not really mean that the Soviet Union would press this point with the Allies.

But it would bear watching, they added. It might even crop up at the preparatory talks tomorrow.

The Western Allies stand that free all-German elections must precede the formation of any all-German body would prevent Allied acceptance of any (Contd. on Back Page, Col. 2)

Berlin Parleys Possible Russian Demand

The Soviet Union will demand the formation of an "All-German Provisional Government" on the first day of the Berlin conference or even before, if a front page editorial in the East German Communist Party chief daily today can be taken as a guide.

To judge by this editorial in Neues Deutschland, the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Molotov, would make the demand on the ground that only such a government could properly represent the German point of view to the foreign ministers.

Neues Deutschland is called "the organ of the Central Committee" of the Government party, and its editorials are regarded by Western observers as Soviet inspired.

The editorial headed "The task of a provisional All-German government" reiterated the proposals made in the Soviet notes of last August 18 and September 28 for the formation of such a government, either to replace the existing East and West German Governments or to work concurrently with them on specific tasks.

The editorial listed all the tasks these Soviet notes had proposed, with one important addition not mentioned before. It identified this proposed provisional government with the East and West German representation at the Berlin foreign ministers' conference, first demanded by the East German Deputy Premier, Hans Walter Ulbricht, on December 10.

The text of the passage in the editorial was: "There are other tasks the solution of which should be tackled by such a government immediately."

"The first would be to represent Germany at the Berlin foreign ministers' conference. Who would more properly represent the point of view of our people before this international panel than a provisional all-German government, formed jointly by the parliaments of the two German states?"

Allied officials here attached importance to this new point, though they said the "party line" expounded in Neues Deutschland mainly for internal East German consumption, did not really mean that the Soviet Union would press this point with the Allies.

But it would bear watching, they added. It might even crop up at the preparatory talks tomorrow.

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Added: NEWS PARADE OF 1953

Bringing Satellites Into Party Line

4 COUNTRIES TO GET NEW POST-STALIN POLICY FROM MOSCOW

Munich, Jan. 6.

All East European Communist parties will hold national congresses this year to work out new programmes following the radical changes in Communist strategy after Stalin's death.

Radio Sofia's announcement recently that the Bulgarian Communist Party will hold a Congress on February 27 brings Bulgaria into line with three other satellites which had made such announcements in the course of the last five weeks.

The Polish Communists will meet on January 16, the Czechoslovaks on June 11, the Hungarians sometime in April.

Many Protests At Reports Of U.S. Aid To Pakistan

London, Jan. 6.
A Foreign Office spokesman said today the British Government had no information concerning a reported statement by the Indian Deputy Defence Minister to the effect that the Soviet Union had informed Afghanistan that it would use Afghan airports in case Pakistan concluded a military pact with the United States.

The spokesman referred to previous statements by the Foreign Office that Britain was being informed by the United States as well as by Pakistan of the talks underway between the two countries regarding military aid.

The spokesman said that the request made by the Afghan government to Britain to revise the Anglo-Afghan Treaty was still "under consideration".

It was indicated here that there was no connection between this request and the approach made yesterday by the Afghan Ambassador in Washington with the State Department concerning Pakistan and the protests by India, the Soviet Union and Communist China regarding the proposed United States military aid to that country.

Whitehall sources said that Pakistan was an independent and sovereign country free to conclude pacts with any country.

It was believed that reinforcing the defensive power of Pakistan would help to increase the defence of the entire sub-continent and of the Middle East.—France-Press.

"QUEEN OF ENGLAND"

Scots Lodge New Protest Against Title

Stirling, Scotland, Jan. 6.
The Scottish Nationalist Party issued a communique here tonight protesting against the reference to Queen Elizabeth as the Queen of England in her Christmas Day broadcast programme.

The Party's Executive Committee stated in the communique that such "errors" had been made so often that they could only be regarded as proof of a new policy toward Scotland by the present government.

There is no doubt, indicated the communique, that the Scottish nation can not accept the status of a province of England. An earlier protest about the Queen's message was made on Monday by the Scottish St. Andrew Society.—France-Press.

The only East European Communist Party which has not yet made any announcement about a congress is the Rumanian Workers' Party, but Western observers expect the Rumanians to make a similar decision shortly.

The decisions to hold national congresses were taken by the East European Communists at a time when "the new course", the so-called liberal economic policy initiated by Moscow, is being attacked by the satellite governments.

It is expected that the congresses will introduce considerable changes in the composition of the leadership of the Communist parties in the satellite countries and will try to work out a new political set up, more closely related to the present alignment in Moscow.

POLITICAL NECESSITY

The Congresses are seen here as a political necessity, since the changes in the Moscow top leadership and the new economic programme have resulted in sharp differences of opinion in some, if not all, of the satellite Communist parties.

This is especially true of the Polish Communists where the sudden switch order by Moscow from expansion of heavy industry towards greater production of consumer goods and housing has resulted in unprecedented and violent discussions within the Central Committee of the Party.

The interesting thing is that the discussion, although in a modified and watered-down form has been published in the Polish Communist theoretical periodical Nowe Drogi.

The last issue of the periodical makes it clear that Communist

opinion in Poland is divided between those who want to proceed with complete collectivization at full speed, those who are willing to increase food production by abandoning collectivization altogether and those who hold a middle course.

AGGRESSIVE SPEECH

Western observers noted the extremely aggressive speech at the Central Committee meeting of Jakob Berman, one of the most influential bosses of Polish Communism. Berman attacked the left wing of the Party and said their policy was one of "retardation" that is to say, he attacked them for wishing to follow Russia's example in collectivizing agriculture, so as to be safe when Moscow changes the line again.

The present policy is to maintain those co-operatives which are already organized, but to put the main hope on the "medium" peasants who are to be helped by the Government to increase production.

The discussion within the Polish Central Committee is an astonishing expression of the degree of confusion and lack of leadership which the satellites have been experiencing in the last few months.

Apparently, they received only the most general directives from Moscow and have the greatest difficulty in understanding the relative importance and power of the various people in the Soviet "collective leadership."

Recent events in Hungary and Czechoslovakia also have followed a muddle and vague course. The impression here is that the satellites, while still held in grip by Moscow, have acquired a large degree of liberty than ever before.—United Press.

He Took It Out On His Car

Chicago, Jan. 6.
The FBI said today that Donald Knudsen, 29, admitted he stole an auto belonging to his former employer, Walter Jankowski, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, drove the car to Chicago, shipped it and then landed it against a brick wall because he just "didn't like" Jankowski.—United Press.

W. German Firms To Build U.S. Bases In Spain

Dusseldorf, Jan. 6.
Talks now underway on the participation of West German firms in the construction of American bases in Spain were making progress despite sharp foreign competition, informed economic circles said here today.

The construction projects—which included airports, roads and harbour installations—were said to involve a total value of \$200,000,000 to \$250,000,000.

The West German Economic Ministry, these sources said, has agreed to an American proposal that the Bonn Government purchase about 10 per cent of the United States for a sum equal to a certain percentage of the earnings made by the German firms on the construction projects.

It was said that the Food and Agriculture Ministry's approval would also be forthcoming.—France-Press.

Russia Agrees To Big-4 Meeting Place

Berlin, Jan. 6.
The representative for the Soviet High Commission in Berlin, Serge Denzine, agreed to discuss tomorrow with the three Western commanders the technical preparations of the forthcoming Foreign Ministers' Conference.

Denzine accepted the Western proposal that the meeting should take place at 1030 hours tomorrow in the Olympic stadium at the British headquarters.

Shortly before receiving the Russian answer, the three Western commanders had met to prepare for tomorrow's talks.—France-Press.

"We're Wasting Money on this Man"

McCarthy Is Accused Of 'Rehashing & Plagiarising'

Washington, Jan. 6.
Senator Allen Ellender (Democrat, Louisiana) said today, most of the \$200,000 spent by Senator Joseph McCarthy's investigating sub-committee last year was wasted. He claimed wide support for a plan to cut the sub-committee's funds.

Simultaneously Senator Karl Mundt (Republican, South Dakota) proposed that the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee be given "full staff" full powers. Committee staffs and a clear field to investigate subversive activities.

Senator Mundt denied this would cut down the power of Senator McCarthy's permanent investigating sub-committee, of which Senator Mundt is a member. Rather, he said, it would "intensify the fight against Communism".

Senator Mundt also suggested that the House and Senate Republican leaders form a "steering committee" to clear investigations by major committees of both Houses. He said this

would help cut down overlapping inquiries.

Senator Ellender told reporters Senator McCarthy "didn't expose any Communists" during the past year but presented the "chained and plagiarized" testimony of other investigating groups.

"Unless we check this man he's going to encroach on the prerogatives of every Committee in the Senate," said Senator Ellender. Ascertaining that Senator McCarthy already has "steamed on the floor" of other Committees, Senator Ellender said he would insist that the Rules Committee ask Senator McCarthy and other investigating chairmen to present detailed justifications of their money requests.

Senator Harry Byrd (Democrat, Virginia) said he knew of no circumstances on the authority of the Armed Services or Finance Committees, of which he is a member. He said, "I don't think I'd favour depriving an investigating Committee of the right to investigate."—United Press.

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U.S. CONGRESS MEETS

Early Conflict Seen After Ike's "State Of Union" Message

Washington, Jan. 6.

The Congress of the United States launched into a new session today to cope with President Eisenhower's legislative proposals for 1954 and election year politics.

"From Rags To Riches"

Wilmington, North Carolina, Jan. 6. The proprietor of a roadside cafe told the Police today that two young men slipped soft drinks and played "from rags to riches" on the cafe's juke box last night before robbing him of \$100.—United Press.

Boy Did Not Thwart Plot Against Nixon

Teheran, Jan. 6. A police communiqué today denied that a 12-year-old schoolboy had thwarted a Communist plot against Vice-President Richard Nixon of the United States.

The police said there was no plot and nobody could be found to substantiate the boy's story that he had been invited to visit the United States.

Earlier police statements had confirmed the boy's story.

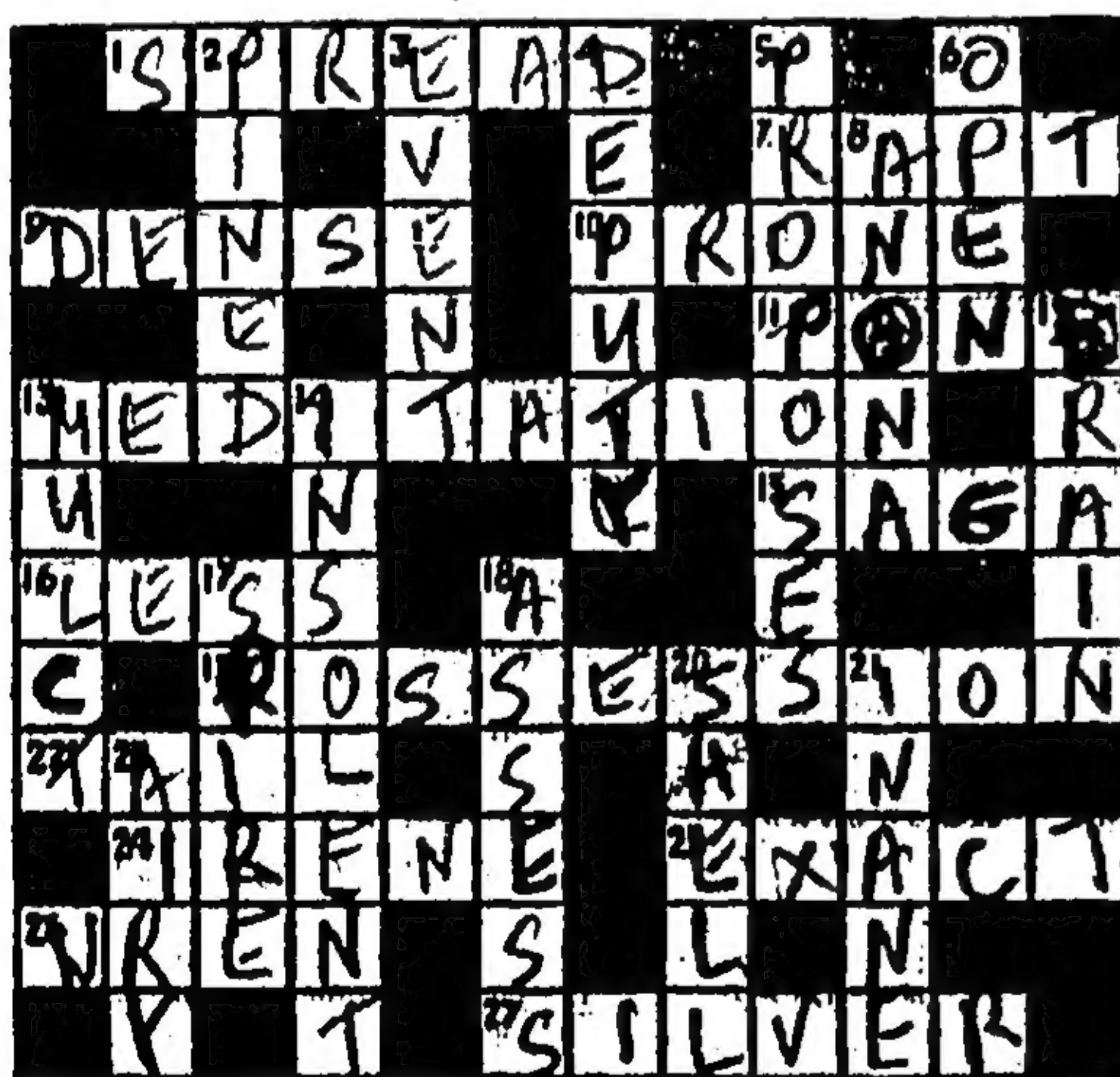
Teheran newspapers have been publishing prominently the story of Sassan Pourtezzadi, which said that when Vice-President Nixon visited Teheran last month, Sassan foiled an attempt against Mr. Nixon.

Sassan said he caused the arrest of Leftists who were distributing anti-Nixon leaflets on December 9, during Mr. Nixon's visit, and that the police found as a result that Communists planned to ram Mr. Nixon's car and throw hand grenades at him.

Sassan said first that Mr. Nixon had invited him to visit the United States. When that was denied, it was reported that Point Four officials were arranging the visit. However, these officials said they knew nothing of any such visit.

Today's communiqué confirmed an earlier police statement that Sassan had been given a medal and a bicycle for bravery. But it was for his bravery in challenging Leftists who were distributing the leaflets, the communiqué said, and not for helping to foil a non-existent plot.—United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle

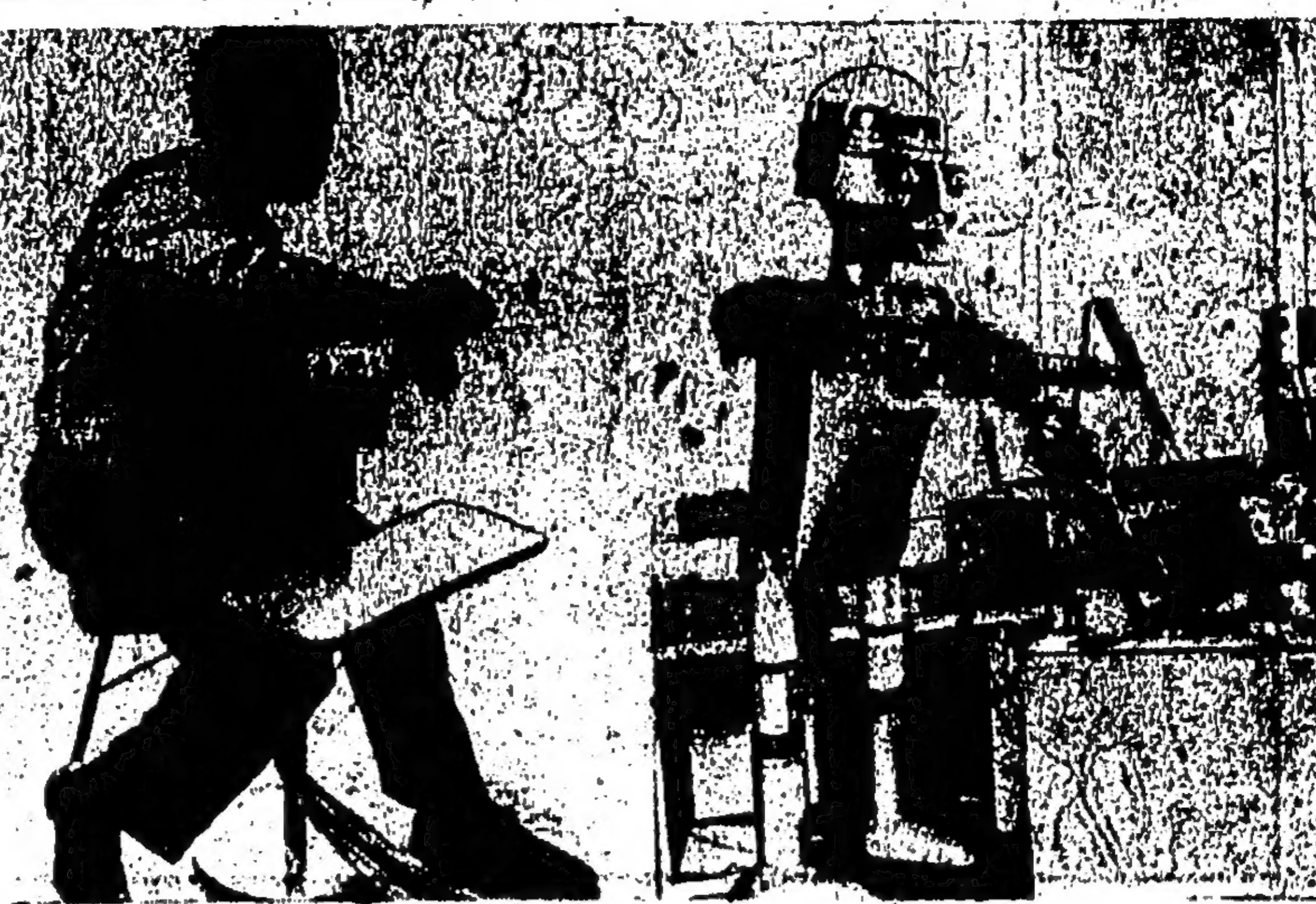


- ACROSS
1 Extend (6).
7 Absorbed (4).
10 Stupid (5).
11 Liable (5).
12 Pool (4).
13 Thought (10).
14 Family story (4).
15 Power (4).
16 Ownership (10).
22 Appendix (4).
24 Girl's name (5).
25 Precious (5).
27 Precious metal (6).

- DOWN
2 Longed for (5).
3 Occurrence (5).
4 Substitute (5).
5 Suggests (5).
6 Frank (4).
8 Miss Winnie (5).
9 Sewer (5).
10 Fine (5).
11 Rude (5).
12 Sleepy (5).
13 Rate (5).
14 Bombard (5).
20 English (5).
21 Well-ventilated (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Accord, 4 Banal, 7 Donate, 9 Party, 10 Bold, 11 Oppose, 12 Niece, 13 Apex, 14 Agony, 15 Cramp, 20 Whisker, 21 Bold, 22 Unhappy, 24 Refuse, 25 Dream, 26 Obedient, 27 Downy, 28 Aid, 29 Conductor, 30 Bite, 31 Arrogant, 32 Assist, 33 Sprawl, 34 Disturb, 35 Occur, 36 Appoint, 37 Responder, 38 Floppy, 39 Dumb.

This Mechanical Man Even Plays Chess



Creator Harvey Chapman sits at the control unit—while his "brain child" Garco, a mechanical man—recently "born" in a California U.S. garage, operates an electric arm. He can saw, hammer, drill, mix chemicals, pick up papers, stack boxes, roll his eyes and play chess. He was constructed in three months mainly from discarded aircraft parts. The brain is electronic—a neat accumulation of six aircraft servo systems. The nervous system consists of 1,200 feet of wire cable—and a two-way radio transmitter enables him to make pertinent remarks. He is operated by remote control. Each arm contains two tiny actuator motors controlled by 22 push buttons which also operate the robot's jaws and lips, increases his height six inches, rolls the eyes and enables him to bow from the hips. The right arm of the robot duplicates every movement of the mechanical arm—that his creator operates at the control unit.—Express Photo.

Exporters Should Pay For "Privilege Of Doing Business" In USA

Washington, Jan. 6.

Governor Robert F. Kennon of Louisiana proposed today that foreign exporters be charged a "concession fee" for the "privilege of doing business" in the United States.

India Will Accept UN Release Date

United Nations, Jan. 6. Indian circles in the United Nations indicated tonight that the Indian Government has decided to accept the United Nations date of January 28 for the release of all prisoners-of-war in Korea.

The Indian Government has said that the Indian guards do not at the moment intend to release all the prisoners on one day but over a period of a week or so.

They hoped to avoid possible disorders which might result from the simultaneous release of 22,000 men who are split into two hostile groups.

Before January 23 the Indian commander intends to continue his identity check of prisoners which will still give them an opportunity to change their minds individually about repatriation.

The check will apply to both the Communist and non-Communist groups.

It was hoped in the same circles here that questions of prestige will be put aside and that the political conference will meet soon and discuss the problem.—France-Press.

ROYAL TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND

Queen In Bumpy Air Trip —And Then A Sheep Show

Napier, N.Z., Jan. 6.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh had a bumpy air trip today — the 14th day of their tour of New Zealand — as they flew from Rotorua to Gisborne and then on to Napier.

The wind blew at 46 mph during part of the trip and the small de Havilland Heron in which they flew "bucked" heavily.

But at Napier they had a great consolation—the Queen and the Duke laughed as they watched a sheep-shearing exhibition. The Queen who had seen it earlier on the tour, was the expert on this occasion and she explained the technicalities to the Duke as the startled sheep were stripped down in less than two and a half minutes.

The de Havilland Heron aircraft in which they flew the 102 miles between Rotorua and Gisborne, interested the Duke of Edinburgh so much that he spent 15 minutes in the cockpit discussing the instruments with the pilot.

AIR RACE PILOT
The second part of the day's flying was an air race in a Dakota aircraft flown by a New Zealand C.O.D. pilot who recently took part in the London-Chichester air race.

Despite bad flying conditions, flights and landings were exactly on schedule.

At Napier, the Queen boarded a bus for a three-mile ceremonial drive to attend a civic reception at the town hall. There the Royal couple were seen by many thousands of people.—France-Press.

Dynamite Plot In Persia: Suspects Hunted

Teheran, Jan. 6.

Persian police tonight redoubled their hunt for underground Communists following the discovery earlier today of 1,000 sticks of dynamite in a Communist hideout near the main Teheran railway station.

Officials claim the dynamite was to be used to assassinate a member of the Shah's Royal family.

While police extended their search for subversive elements into the provinces, General Taimour Bakhtia, Military Governor of Teheran, warned students that any demonstrations in favour of Dr. Mossadegh, the deposed Prime Minister, would be punished by expulsion from their university and a ban on their admission to any other college.

Fifty arrests were ordered by the Military Governor of the personnel from the Persian railway after today's dynamite discovery in a junk shop facing the central post office.

DROGNET THROWN

The police dragnet was thrown round more suspected Communist hideouts tonight following information given by one of the arrested men, and about 80 more arrests were ordered in the Azerbaijan area on the evidence of seized documents.

An official of the railways office said the dynamite was intended to be used a month ago to blow up the train in which the Queen Mother arrived home from the United States. The plot failed, and a second attempt was planned.

Two cases full of "seditious literature", seized in the junk shop, indicated that the plot was organised by Communists abroad, the official said.

The cases contained correspondence with Communist circles abroad and disclosed a plan for outbreaks of violence throughout Persia's election period, he added.—Reuter.

"Third Man" Chase Through Madrid Sewers

Madrid, Jan. 6.

Police today hunted suspected thieves through the maze of Madrid's underground sewers in the style of the film, "The Third Man."

The long pursuit in the dark complicated network of passages ended eventually with three men being captured.

They were believed to be part of a gang robbing lorries parked at city markets.—Reuter.

HARRY ODELL presents

THE INK SPOTS

(on the stage)

as an added attraction

at the

EMPIRE THEATRE

with the screening of Paramount's

"SCARED STIFF"

Commencing Friday, 8th January, 1954

at

2.30, 5.00, 7.20 and 9.40 p.m. daily

Lord Norwich Buried At Belvoir Castle

Grantham, Jan. 6. Lord Norwich, better known as Sir Alfred Duff Cooper, former British Ambassador to France, who died at sea last week, was buried today at Belvoir Castle, the property of the Duke of Rutland.

The funeral was small and only a few persons were present. They included French Ambassador to Britain, M. René Massigli, Lady Norwich, who could not undertake the long journey here was present at the memorial service which was held in London and also attended by Premier Sir Winston Churchill.—France-Press.



THE FAMOUS NEW TONIC... AMERICAN'S FAVORITE... THEY ACTUALLY RECORDED MORE HIT TUNES THAN ANY OTHER SINGING GROUP.

A TREAT AT REGULAR CINEMA PRICES

DON IDDON'S DIARY

Less Revelry On New Year's Eve

New York, Tuesday. THE police didn't bother to put up barricades in the streets leading to Times Square (New York's Piccadilly Circus) this New Year's Eve, and the shopkeepers did not board up their windows.

The time when 1,000,000 people gathered in the neon-bright square—the most brilliantly lit of all the world's cross-roads—to greet the brand-new year with yells and rattles and trumpet-blowing is over.

Each New Year the crowd which gazes at the narrow slice of the New York Times building to wait for the signal gets smaller. Television keeps the people at home to see the New Year in at their firesides, or rather, their radiators.

I used to make an uncomfortable pilgrimage to Times Square every New Year's Eve, crushed and bruised by revellers; but no more. It is a waste of a journalist's time and energy.

Americans are more sober, inhibited, worried people these days, reluctant to dance in the streets, wave bottles, kiss strangers, and shout themselves hoarse. Perhaps it is world leadership which has quietened them.

Year of decision

ON the whole I don't expect much wild carousing last Thursday night, because the year ahead looks like being a serious one for most Americans. Nineteen-fifty-four is being widely touted as the year of decision. I seem to remember that 1952 and the year before that were also advertised as years of decision, but '54 is declared to be the genuine decisive article.

Already Cabinet Ministers are hinting that they stand ready to counter the slump, known here now as the "slide," with Government spending. The pump will be primed with Government money, credit will be made easier, interest rates will be lower.

It sounds rather like the Roosevelt era again. Republicans who used to damn deficit spending as bad and dangerous economies are now gingerly advocating it.

The Republican wheel has not turned full circle, but some of the schemes to prevent a depression have the stamp, or at least the fingerprints, of the late Lord Keynes, the late Harry Hopkins, and the New Dealers.

President Eisenhower, on a semi-holiday in Georgia, is saying little except that he is not mad at anybody.

I had lunch the other day with one of the President's inner council and he told me: "There has been a remarkable change in the boss since his United Nations atom-pool speech. He is overflowing with confidence; his aches and pains, which might have been psychological, have disappeared, and he is very definitely the man in charge."

Whether the President's popularity abroad will remain high is one of 1954's big questions.

Fewer dollars quite definitely will be sent to Europe. I don't know whether you realise that the United States has sent 40,000,000,000 dollars—that's over £14,000,000,000—abroad in the eight years since the war.

From each citizen

COLOSSAL sums are always hard to grasp and you probably wouldn't notice if a zero or two were omitted, but it adds down to hundreds of dollars, and in some instances thousands, coming from the pockets of every American citizen and other residents here.

American income tax is almost as high as British and there are hundreds of hidden taxes—more than in Britain.

There has never been such generosity in the history of the world, and we should realise it. We are going to have to realise it anyway, because it is tapering off. Playing Father Christmas to all the free world perpetually can become tiresome.

Many of my friends say: "I suppose we shall be disliked more than ever when the well runs dry."

There is a conviction here that Americans are not liked, and even actively disliked, abroad. The magazine, *The Reporter*, seizing on this topic, has published a witty article entitled "How to Hate Americans," by M. R. Werner.

Like or dislike?

IT says: "Here are some suggestions:

"1. Hate Americans because they are rich. More Americans have money than people of any other one nationality, and so there are more of them to envy and hate;

"2. Hate Americans because they drink too much. The United States is one of the few nations that ever endured Prohibition. Ever since the 1840's there has been a virulent temperance movement in America. Millions of Americans drink nothing but water or milk;

"3. Hate Americans because they are always thinking and talking about business and work. Point out that the United States has no leisure class;

"4. Hate Americans because they do not produce great art or literature. Do not read Poe, Emerson, Thoreau, Melville, Mark Twain, Henry James, and William Faulkner, or you might change your mind;

"5. Hate Americans because they want to run the world. In this connection it would be well not to call Americans isolationists in the same breath."



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The top Nazi who tried to sway the King

—But he was 'not at home'



RIBBENTROP
A Nazi salute in diplomatic London—1938



FRAU RIBBENTROP
Chatty footnotes—1953

by WILLIAM HAMSHER

HE suffered from The Great Delusion—and it helped to bring him to the harsh reality of the gallows. Today, seven years after his death by hanging as a war criminal, his death-cell justifications have been published in Western Germany under the title of "Between London and Moscow."

Joachim von Ribbentrop was the name. Politics were his business. And his delusion, in the 18 months he served Hitler as German Ambassador in London, was that Britain could be swung into the Nazi orbit.

Ribbentrop used to visit Britain in his youth. He quotes the Prussian Marshal Blucher's view of London: "Clearly a good city to loot."

In 1936 Hitler appointed him as envoy to Britain. To Ribbentrop, London then seemed a good city to loot, politically. But he admits on a later view that "it seemed as though I must have been wearing rose-tinted spectacles."

Rose-tinted? Certainly badly focused. For never was Ribbentrop's distorted view evidenced so plainly as in his record of his activities in London.

FOR instance, Ribbentrop, the man who gave the Nazi salute when he presented his credentials to Edward VIII (now the Duke of Windsor), felt himself strong enough to meddle in the constitutional crisis which ended in the abdication of the King in 1936.

The aim of his meddling: To keep Edward as King "because he had several times shown himself to be really friendly towards Germany."

"I racked my brains what I could do," writes Ribbentrop; "whether there was anything left to do to influence the course of events." As abdication rumours drifted down the Mall, Ambassador Ribbentrop phoned Hitler that commentaries against the King appearing in the British Press must on no account be echoed in Nazi newspapers.

Then, "through a friendly middleman in Buckingham Palace I requested an audience."

But back came the reply: the King was not at home. Though he failed with the Palace, Ribbentrop had

already given his mission a wonderful start by signing the Anglo-German Naval Treaty in 1935, under which Germany could start building U-boats.

He called up the Fuehrer in Berlin and had the happiness of hearing Hitler's own voice describing the day of the signing as "the happiest of my life."

Hitler's reward for bringing off the treaty was an unlimited expenses account, and the order for the extension and new interior decorating of the embassy in Carlton House Terrace.

His widow

INTO the book from time to time steps Ribbentrop's widow, who contributes chatty footnotes.

Writes Frau Ribbentrop: "The situation of our embassy between Buckingham Palace and the Admiralty could not have been better. Hitler himself ordered the new interior furnishings. Just at that time Hitler had launched a four-year plan to make Germany independent of a British blockade if war came."

So to save foreign currency everything—even the workers—was shipped from Germany, nothing was bought in London.

Progress

ONCE the embassy was furnished, the Ribbentrops really went to town. And from time to time interim reports went back to Berlin on how they were doing.

The ambassador was working on everybody with whom he could come into contact. He notes his own record of progress towards bringing about an Anglo-German pact. On Stanley Baldwin and Ramsay MacDonald: "I talked to them for a long time about Hitler's foreign policy. Baldwin expressed himself positively. MacDonald didn't seem to disapprove of the ideas either. MacDonald, lovable as only the English can be, said jokingly he would certainly vote for me if I put up as a candidate in his constituency."

Mr Eden seems to have impressed Ribbentrop when he was seen "with tears in his eyes at the 1937 Coronation." Of him, Ribbentrop notes: "He did not do anything to make my difficult task any more difficult than it was. He showed understanding for the German viewpoint."

It seems to have been heavy going with Sir Robert (now Lord) Vansittart, who apparently in all his meetings with Ribbentrop turned out to be a very good listener.

Ribbentrop sums up: "If today it is said that Vansittartism and the hatred of Germany summed up in this word is a consequence of the policies of Hitler—then I must counter with the belief it would be far more accurate to say Hitlerism was a consequence of Vansittart's policy in 1938."

Ribbentrop, reporting on his last meeting with Hitler shortly before the Fuehrer died in the Berlin bunker, with Eva Braun in 1945, says the Fuehrer then emphasised he had been anxious over since the 'twenties that Germany should go along with Britain.

Colonies

THERE is no specific statement from Ribbentrop on what would have been involved in an Anglo-German pact. There are scattered references in the book to the fact that Hitler would not necessarily have asked for all the German Colonies back—perhaps one or two, with special trade terms for Nazi merchants in the others.

Hitler, if Britain had promised him a free hand against Poland and Russia, would also have been ready to offer us 12 divisions "for use wherever they might be needed."

The Workers' Lot Under the Reds

By JULIUS GOULD

Lecturer on Sociology at the London School of Economics

HOW do the workers fare under Communism? This is a vital question, for it is upon their devotion to "working class interests" that Communists everywhere place so much stress.

When they are in opposition, the Communists aim their propaganda at the underdog and the underprivileged, at all those who, in industrial society, feel lonely and disinherited. They exploit every social tension and injustice in their search for support among the masses. And by way of contrast, they paint a glowing picture of the prestige and authority enjoyed by the worker in Communist countries.

A superior social system, they argue, has been discovered and is in hand working order—a system in which the working class reigns supreme. Communists and their friends who visit Eastern Europe bring back carefully chosen evidence to support this case.

Now, in fact, does the worker get along in this new social order? Is he really at last emancipated from social injustice? Much evidence is available for a sensible and honest answer to these questions. For in recent months the lid has been blown off the Communist economies of Eastern Europe. The satellite leaders have been faced with the threat of economic breakdown, and in eleven-hour attempts to restore the situation they have revealed more than they intended about the system they have built up.

Basing ourselves solely on recent statements by these leaders, let us examine one aspect of the position of the working class in Eastern Europe—an aspect of great significance. What protection has the worker vis a vis his employers?

In country after country in the West there exist strong and independent trades union organizations, often politically neutral, charged with the task of defending the interests of the worker against both private and public employers. Genuine trade unions are not part of the

political apparatus of their countries; they jealously preserve the right to negotiate with employers round the table, and if they cannot reach agreement over wages and conditions of work, they reserve the right to withdraw the labour of their members.

In Communist countries the unions exist in name and in form only. In effect they are executive agencies of the Communist Party. It is the Party, not the trade union, which decides what the real interests of the worker are. Thus, by a kind of magic, any conflict of "real" interest between worker and employer is banished.

This is logical enough, for Communist theory insists that the Party, through its study of Marxism-Leninism, knows with absolute clarity what the "real" interests of the population happen to be. Where these interests are "known" in this way, there can be little point in any body other than the Communist Party offering its opinion. The Party in its wisdom makes known what the interests of the worker require; it then tells the trade union to direct the workers accordingly. If anyone doubts that this is so, the labour laws of Eastern Europe make it abundantly plain; and the labour practice of those countries make it even plainer.

A few examples will show what I mean. In Eastern Germany in June 1953, the harsh Party decrees on wages and labour norms led to an explosion throughout the country. The rumblings of which have not yet died away. If this explosion did reveal a conflict between worker and employer, a gap between the workers' "real" interests and the wishes of the Soviet-controlled State party, words have lost their meaning.

The East German Government's statements which followed the explosion were extremely revealing about the nature of trade union practice. The Communist leader Ulbricht in July explained that "the hated proposals, now withdrawn or modified, had not been worked out with the assistance of the trade union movement. The responsible Ministers, he said, had ignored the unions in determining the decrees. "Instead of listening to the recommendations of the trade-unions,

the Party organisation issued orders to them."

Again, the authors of what is described as a "Fundamental Document on the Party's New Course in Eastern Germany," say "his of previous trade union practice: 'Party officials frequently led the union by its apron-strings and violated internal trade union democracy by interference in union administration.' They added: 'This must never happen again.' Henceforth "sledgehammer methods" should be avoided.

Of course Western Communists never notice such "sledgehammer methods" during their conducted tours; they never raise such "violations of trade union democracy" at the meetings of the Communist-dominated World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU).

The "sledgehammer," however, has been used deliberately not only in Eastern Germany but throughout satellite Europe. It is very difficult to see how this could have been avoided, even though the authorities in Eastern Europe seem now publicly aware of its dangers. For everywhere the Communists have shown anxiety about what they call "social democracy."

The sledgehammer methods of which some German leaders are now complaining were no accident; they were devised to break the working class from the old practices of social democracy. The Czechoslovak trade union leader, Dastler, put it once very clearly: "Social democracy induced workers to favour narrow and particular local interests, placing them above the known interests of the working class, and deflecting their attention from general questions of the building up of Socialism, from defending the known interests and needs of the whole working class."

Everywhere the Communist parties had instructed the trade union movements they controlled to put their backs into the job of raising production in accordance with the State plans. These plans, created brains, which brought the whole system to the verge of breakdown, yet, throughout this period of faulty planning, the trade unions could neither argue nor criticize—let alone strike against the conditions under which their members worked.

Such strikes would be, by definition, support of "narrow, particular and local interests" and therefore reactionary and bourgeois! All this is now admitted, by people who ought to know!

From The Palace To The Ritz

By SAM WHITE

Paris. Aubrey, I presume—head chef of Buckingham Palace.

Mr Aubrey appeared startled. "Look here, how did you know I was here?" he said. "This thing is absolutely secret."

Scotch is correct. Knowledge of Aubrey's Buckingham Palace background is confined to one of the two managers of the hotel, and Aubrey has been staunchly denying his presence ever since he arrived here.

To others on the hotel staff Mr Aubrey is simply an apprentice cook from Britain, here to learn more of the trade. Mr Aubrey's job at present is that of "repasseur," or chef's assistant, in the hotel's kitchens. He came here by arrangement with a high Palace official.

The East European trade union movements are in fact a fraudulent facade of the kind familiar to students of totalitarianism. They resemble only in name the free organisations of the working class in non-Communist societies. They operate in a system where the State is not merely on fundamentals, but also on important details (such as the contents of the economic plan) is regarded as sabotage, in a system where the State machine controls and dominates the conditions of economic and political life.

Even now, no Communist government can admit the principle of trade union independence or neutrality. To do so, would, on Communist premises, be a step backwards to the old and unsatisfactory days of "social democracy."

Colonel UP and M. DOWN... by Walter

• BY • THE • WAY •
by Beachcomber

"GOOD-MORNING, Crofton. What did we buy yesterday?"

"Three hotel and a restaurant."

"Don't bother me with names. I'll get them myself."

"I've bought Victoria street."

"All of it?"

"Yes, sir. What shall we do with it?"

"Sell it. And Crofton, I'll have to shift my yacht from Victoria street to Cannes."

DUMB-BELLS



YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

BORN today, you are preoccupied by nature and are happiest when you are surrounded by friends. You will be most content if you have a large family of your own, which you can love and affection. You are emotionally unhappy, you cannot do it, but you must stand your ground, your tenacious and your latent development to the highest possible degree. You are the type to work better in a "hurry" than in a "slow" one.

However, you like to be the leader and can become very impatient if you have to wait upon others for a decision. You have ideas of your own and want to follow them without intervention from others. You would probably do best in one of the arts or the professions where a great deal depends upon personal initiative rather than merely following a path beaten by others.

You are inclined to be a little too critical of what others are doing, but that is a commoner fault than you think. You are a fault-finder only because you are a perfectionist. If you must make a decision, be constructive in your suggestions. Suggest a better mouse trap instead of insisting that the existing one is so good. You'll be surprised how well this system will work.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) You could combine business and pleasure today if you wished. Friendliness on the job is helpful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) Work hard to complete your week-end working schedule so you can plan for a recreation week-end.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Often you will find that minor details turn out to be extremely important to your major objective.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20) Utilize your imaginative powers to the best possible advantage and you can improve your work output.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21) Don't get involved in an argument today. It will only hurt you. Use initiative, but make sure you appear at first. It could prove seriously disagreeable.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Have you a vivid and creative imagination? Then use it today and you will find that you advance your interests.

CANCER (June 22-July 23) Utilize your mental skills as well as your manual dexterity if you want to get the best results today.

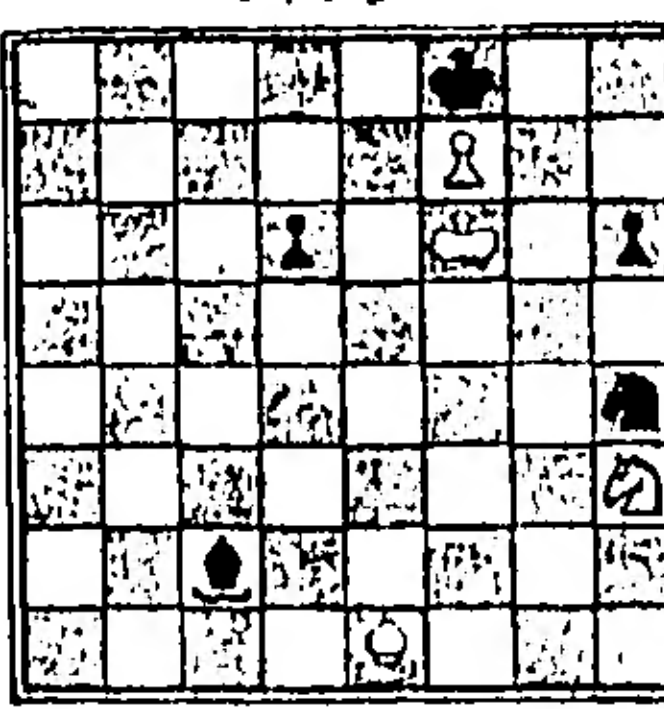
LEO (July 24-Aug. 23) If you have a birthday, or an anniversary to remember, and if these dates make your plans for the day, make your plans for the day.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) Should an important decision be pending, make up your mind today. If you have all the facts at hand.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) Clear your desk of last-minute jobs so that you won't have to take a filled briefcase with you tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23) Look far enough ahead to make decisions.

CHESS PROBLEM

By V. E. RASMUSSEN
Black, 5 pieces.White to play; mate in three.
Solution to yesterday's problem: 1. Q-KB5, any; 2. Q. R. or K. mates.

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Hats Off to This Kind of Bidding

NORTH			7
♥ K 10 5 4			
♦ Q			
♣ K 5 3			
♦ Q J 8 6 5			
WEST		EAST	
♥ A Q 10 2		♥ J 9 8 7 3	
♦ K 8 3		♦ 10 6 5	
♣ 9		♦ A	
♥ A K 10 9		♦ 7 4 3 2	
SOUTH (D)			
♥ None			
♥ A J 9 7 4 2			
♣ Q J 10 7 6 4 2			
♦ None			
Neither side vul.			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♦	3 ♦	1 ♠
2 ♥	3 ♥	4 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	5 ♥	6 ♥	Pass
6 ♥	(*) Double	5 ♠	Pass
Pass			Pass
Opening lead—♥ K			

ALL MUST GIVE BEST TO BEN HOGAN AS THE SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR

Says DENNIS HART

Who was the sports personality of 1953? A difficult question? It seems so at first, as hundreds of names spring to mind.

But look at it this way. In ten years' time, how will you, as a sports fan, remember 1953?

Much of course, will depend on your nationality. For Englishmen it will be the year that Gordon Richards won the Derby, England Stanley Matthews gained a Cup-winners' medal.

Australians will remember it for Frank Sedgman's professional tennis victory, and John Landy's great running, whilst the highlight for Italians will be the regaining of the world professional road cycling title by Fausto Coppi. For South Africans the phenomenal ultra-marathon efforts of Wally Hayward will be most memorable.

Great performances all, but even they can give best to another. For few sportsmen, of any country, will forget that day in July, when, on the wind and rain-swept Carnoustie course, Ben Hogan won the British Open Golf Championship, and completed the greatest sporting comeback of all time.

Four years ago Hogan was lying on his back in a hospital bed, paralysed in places, and swathed in bandages, following a road smash, his life hung in the balance.

Within a year he was playing golf again. He could barely walk, but with short, shuffling steps, each of which caused him agony, he forced himself round the course.

The following year he regained his United States title.

NOT FOR NOTHING

This would have been enough to satisfy most men. But not

Hogan. Not for nothing is he called 'Iron Man'.

Before his accident he was one of sport's most criticised champions. Serious and tight-lipped as he went from success to success, he was few people's idea of a popular champion.

Hogan accepted the position like he accepted everything else—with absolute calm. If people did not like him, he at least would not let it interfere with his golf.

So he withdrew more and more into his shell until critics switched from running down his private life to faulting his play. It was said that his machine-like golf was all right on near-perfect American courses, but in Britain, where natural hazards

So much for the first three. Now for the honourable mentions.

High on the list comes Gordon Pirie, the Surrey bank clerk whose devotion to athletics and staid training has put him in the Zatopek class, as a breaker of world, British and European records.

But, we must not, of course, forget Zatopek himself. Despite increasing competition the mercurial Czech not only held all his world records, but increased the number to nine.

Then there is Fausto Coppi, another who came back after a serious crash to win world honours; Hutton, England's first professional cricket captain, who, this season, was to the batting what Alec Bedser was to the bowling; Florence Chadwick, American Channel swimmer who set up a time which even the men could not touch.

Maureen Connolly deserves special mention for winning the special women's singles final that Wimbledon has ever seen. Praise too for her opponent, Doris Hart.

There are many others whose performances will be recalled nostalgically in years to come. I will mention but two, those great veterans, Stanley Matthews and Sir Gordon Richards.

After twice being on the losing side in a Cup Final when past his 35th birthday it seemed that Matthews, one of the most popular footballers ever, was destined to go without English soccer's greatest prize.

But last May, Stan played perhaps the greatest game of his illustrious career. He inspired Blackpool from being 3-1 down with only 20 minutes left for play for a 4-3 victory. Never had anyone been more deserving of a Cup winners' medal.

And Sir Gordon Richards? Like Matthews, a national figure, he had striven for 30 years to achieve flat racing's highest honour. When he finally brought off his Derby victory on Pinza at Epsom in June the whole country cheered him and the Queen herself, whose horse he beat into second place, was one of the first to shake him by the hand.

—(London Express Service)

THEN BEDSER

Who can rival Hogan? Second place surely can go only to a man of similar stature, a sportsman who is not only proficient at his art, but who has shown tremendous determination in carrying it out.

And who better to fit that description than Alec Bedser, the giant Surrey bowler, with a heart bigger than his size twelve boots. It was due to Bedser, more than any other player, that England regained the Ashes this summer, and ended Australia's 21-year cricket monopoly.

Whilst most of his colleagues were busy in avoiding defeat, Alec was on the warpath, flinging himself into the attack to achieve victory.

Since first playing for England seven years ago, Alec has played in four series against Australia, each time he has bowled himself into the ground. On the first three occasions his efforts went unrewarded, owing to lack of support.

He received little enough backing this time. But he broke the back of the Aussie batting, and their hearts.

Third place, I think, must go to Frank Sedgman. Frank qualifies on two counts, as winner of the London Professional Lawn Tennis Championship and, virtually, the world title—and as

the most improved player in the game.

When he won the Wimbledon title last year, Sedgman was solely a net-rusher. Away from the net he was just another player.

In taking the professional title from Pancho Gonzales, the Australian produced tennis that was high-class and high-powered from every angle. Gonzales is a tough player who thrives on speed. Against Sedgman he never knew what hit him.

HONOURABLE MENTIONS

So much for the first three. Now for the honourable mentions.

High on the list comes Gordon Pirie, the Surrey bank clerk whose devotion to athletics and staid training has put him in the Zatopek class, as a breaker of world, British and European records.

But, we must not, of course, forget Zatopek himself. Despite increasing competition the mercurial Czech not only held all his world records, but increased the number to nine.

Then there is Fausto Coppi, another who came back after a serious crash to win world honours; Hutton, England's first professional cricket captain, who, this season, was to the batting what Alec Bedser was to the bowling; Florence Chadwick, American Channel swimmer who set up a time which even the men could not touch.

Maureen Connolly deserves special mention for winning the special women's singles final that Wimbledon has ever seen. Praise too for her opponent, Doris Hart.

There are many others whose performances will be recalled nostalgically in years to come. I will mention but two, those great veterans, Stanley Matthews and Sir Gordon Richards.

After twice being on the losing side in a Cup Final when past his 35th birthday it seemed that Matthews, one of the most popular footballers ever, was destined to go without English soccer's greatest prize.

But last May, Stan played perhaps the greatest game of his illustrious career. He inspired Blackpool from being 3-1 down with only 20 minutes left for play for a 4-3 victory. Never had anyone been more deserving of a Cup winners' medal.

And Sir Gordon Richards? Like Matthews, a national figure, he had striven for 30 years to achieve flat racing's highest honour. When he finally brought off his Derby victory on Pinza at Epsom in June the whole country cheered him and the Queen herself, whose horse he beat into second place, was one of the first to shake him by the hand.

—(London Express Service)

One Change In Welsh Team To Play England

Cardiff, Jan. 6. A. Thomas, the Cardiff "Utility" back who has yet to play on a losing side for Wales, takes the place of his club colleague, Gareth Griffiths, in the Welsh Rugby Union team to play England at Twickenham, London, on January 18.

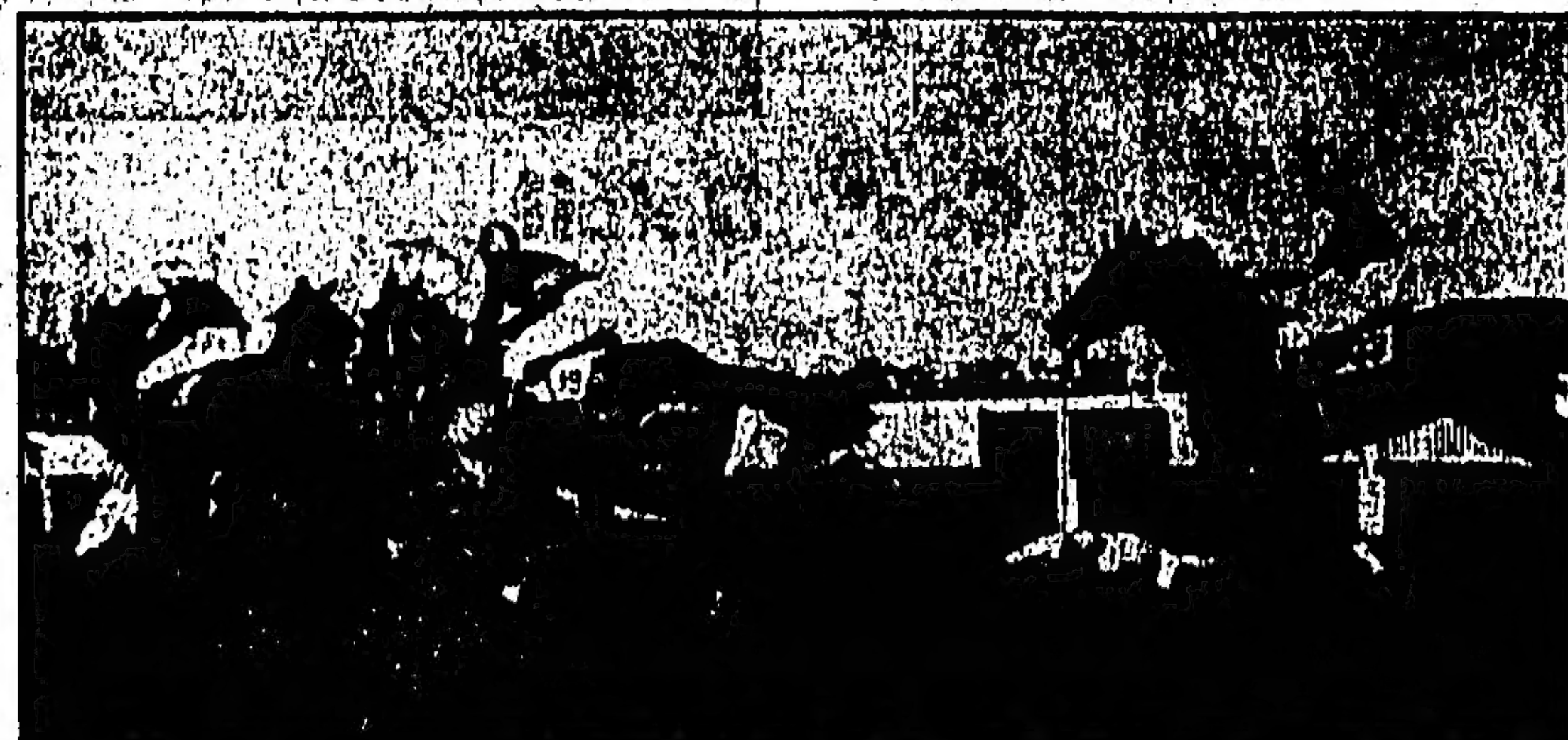
This is the only change from the side which beat New Zealand 13 points to eight at Cardiff last month. Griffiths was injured in that match.

The team: G. Williams; K. J. Jones; A. Thomas, B. L. Williams (captain), G. Rowlands; C. Morgan, W. R. Davies; W. O. Williams, D. M. Davies; C. Meredith; J. A. Williams; E. A. John; S. Judd; J. R. Stephens; R. C. C. Thomas.—China Mail Special.

Spain Beats Turkey

Madrid, Jan. 6. Spain beat Turkey 4-1 in their World Cup group six preliminary soccer match to-day. The half-time score was 1-1.—United Press.

DOWN IN THE KEMPTON HURDLE RACE



Mr W. T. Curtis' Miss Harry and her rider, J. Dick, lying on the turf after falling at the first hurdle first time round in the Juvenile Hurdle Race at Kempton Park Races on December 28. No. 19 is Mr G. Laurence's Scottish Sea, ridden by D. Dillon. No. 23 is Mr H. C. Nias' Woodstock Way, ridden by J. Dowdeswell. —Reuterphoto.

No New Stars, But Many New Records In America's Track And Field Year

New York, Jan. 6. The year 1953 in American sports was for the most part a year in which proven performers lived up to expectations; there were no flaming new stars although there were many new records.

In track and field the biggest name was that of marvelous Mal Whitfield, who set five new world indoor and outdoor track records. One of these records, 2:20.8 for 1,000 Metres set on August 16, was bettered on September 17 by Audun Boysen of Norway, who did 2:20.4. But Mal's other records seem sure to get formal approval—55.6 seconds for 500 Yards indoors, 1:09.5 for 500 Yards indoors, 1:02.5 for 500 Metres indoors, and 1:48.6 for an outdoor Half Mile.

Fortune Gordien set a new world Discus record of 194 feet 6 inches on August 22, ending a year of new world records in this event. Slim Innes did better than 189 feet twice in practice, and Gordien previously had done 180 feet 7½ inches, 191 feet 8 inches, and 190 feet even. The old world record was Gordien's 186 feet 11 inches.

Perry O'Brien set a new world 16-pound Shot Put record of 59 feet three-quarters of an inch on May 9, and Bob Backus of Marshfield, Mass., set a new 35-pound Weight world mark of 81 feet 8¾ inches on December 12.

Another new world record came in the High Jump when Walter "Buddy" Davis of Texas cleared 6 feet 11½ inches in June. Davis later turned professional as a basketball player.

In the One Mile, Wes Santee of Kansas did 4:02.4, the fastest mile ever run by an American and the fifth fastest in history. Only Gunder Hagg, Arne Andersson, Roger Bannister and John Landy have done better.

In baseball it was the Yankees and Dodgers again. The Yanks won the American League and World Championships for the fifth straight year; Brooklyn won the National League pennant for the second straight year.

In football it was Maryland and Notre Dame at the top of the college heap; Detroit and Cleveland the best among the pros.

Tennis produced no dominant player, except Maureen Connolly.

In boxing Rocky Marciano emerged as a Heavyweight Champion without a logical contender after he knocked out Roland LaStarza in September.—United Press.

Record Entry For Empire Games

London, Jan. 6. A record entry of 24 has been received for the British Empire and Commonwealth Games at Vancouver from July 30 to August 7.

The entries are Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, Canada, England, Fiji, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaya, New Zealand, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Northern Rhodesia, Pakistan, Scotland, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Trinidad, Uganda and Wales.

The previous best entry for the Games was when they were held in London 18 years ago when 10 territories competed.—France-Press.

THE GAMBOLS by Barry Appleby



Warm Tribute To Pegasus Sportsmanship

Warm tributes to the sportsmanship of the Pegasus team were paid by both the Hon. Sir Man-kam Lo, President of the Hongkong Football Association, and the Hon. Mr Justice C. W. Reece at the dinner in honour of the Pegasus Football Club last night at the Peninsula Hotel.

Amongst the distinguished guests present were the Hon. R. B. Black, Colonial Secretary, Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, Dr L. T. Rido, Vice-Chancellor of the Hongkong University, Mr D. Benson, Chairman of the Hongkong Jockey Club, and many others.

In his welcoming address to the President as a token of remembrance a plaque on which were the insignias of the Oxford, Cambridge and the Pegasus Clubs.

Mr Justice Reece, on behalf of the other guests, also paid tribute to the sportsmanship displayed by Pegasus.

In endorsing the remarks made by the President on the behaviour of spectators in the Colony, he stated that for the first time in his career as a soccer enthusiast, he was a witness to a game where the Police had to be called to control sections of the crowd which did not like to see their side lose.

Mr Reece stated that Hong Kong must be following Pegasus progress in the Amateur Cup with all the interest good friends had for their favourites, and hoped that Pegasus would go from success to success in the Cup competition with full knowledge of the wholehearted support of the Colony.

Over 200 hundred members of the soccer fraternity attended the dinner.

GOLF MATCH

Members of the Pegasus team spent an enjoyable afternoon at Fanning yesterday where they met a representative side from the Royal Hongkong Golf Club, the Army and Royal Air Force in a friendly golf match.

Before the match the Pegasus players were luncheon guests of the Golf Club.

The feature of the match was the astonishing display by H. J. Potts, the popular right winger of the team, at both golf and subsequently, near death at the Clubhouse.

Inter-School Table Tennis

Following are the results of the first round of the Inter-School table tennis tournament which began yesterday:

A Grade: La Salle beat Chatham English School 5-0; St Paul's Co-ed School beat Junior Technical School 5-2; Clement Middle School awarded a walk-over against Tak Ming School; Wah Yan, Kowloon, beat Ying Wah College 5-1; Wah Yan, Hong Kong, beat St Stephen's College 5-3; St Joseph's College beat New Mo School 5-2; St Joseph's School beat Queen's College 5-2.

B Grade: St Louis School beat St Joseph's College 5-1; St Louis School beat Ying Wah College 5-1; St Louis School beat Wah Yan, Hong Kong 5-0; La Salle beat Wah Yan, Kowloon 5-1.

C Grade: St Louis School beat Wanchai A.M. School 5-0; Northcote Training College Primary School beat Ella Kadoorie A.M. School 5-0; Wah Yan, Kowloon, beat Henan Yuen A.M. School 5-1; Clement Middle School beat St Stephen's College 5-3; Wah Yan, Hong Kong, beat Henan Yuen A.M. School 5-1; Junior Technical School awarded a walk-over against Tak Ming School.

Dwelling on the Hungry v England game, he felt that perhaps it was a good thing for English football, but added that as Confucius once said "high seas come and go, but the Rock remains." England, as the root from which Association Football had spread, remained, despite the defeat suffered, the Rock.

He concluded by thanking the officials of the HKFA, and all the other organisations that had given them such warm welcome and

Bucceroni Beats Hein Ten Hoff

Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 6. Dan Bucceroni retained his rating as the No. 1 heavyweight contender to-day after a convincing win over big Hein Ten Hoff, the former heavyweight champion of Europe.—United Press.

Surf.
Surf.
Surf.
Surf.
Surf.

Spotlighting The Three-Year-Olds of 1954

EPAULETTE CAN BE
A GOOD COLT
UP TO A MILE

By JAMES PARK

Mr Jack Gerber was not so much in the limelight in 1953, but there is still time for his yearling purchases of the previous year to justify themselves. By Thunder ran three times without catching the handicapper's eye, and it was the same with Epaulette.

I have no doubt that Mr Freer, who compiles the Free Handicap, felt he could not do them justice, and I would not disagree with him on that point.

Epaulette ran three times in the autumn, and after a first outing at Manchester won his later races very easily.

He thoroughly trounced Queen Illyria at Redcar, and the form was made to look all the better when the filly went on to win by a wide margin at Liverpool.

Epaulette then disposed of the opposition in his own time at Leicester. He won by a length, but that was because he was ridden with complete confidence. It was difficult to estimate how much he had in hand.

BRED FOR SPEED

There is no doubt in my mind that Epaulette was a much better two-year-old than By Thunder, but that is what could be expected in view of their breeding. One is bred to go fast, and the other is not. Epaulette cost 6,000 guineas as a yearling, and his only classic liability is the 2,000 Guineas.

It would be unreasonable to expect the colt to stay more than a mile. He is by Court Martial out of Golden Sari, a Distur mare whose dam Fortitude was a prolific producer of winners, including Lucky Lord, Ashby's Gap and Olympic.

The next dam was also a successful mare and was out of Lady Barn, who bred eight winners including Spend a Penny.

So far it is not possible to calculate the merit of Epaulette with any degree of accuracy and that, I should say, is why he is not in the Free Handicap. That

Commonwealth
Rugger Team

The following have been selected to represent the Commonwealth XV in the first round of the International against Scotland on Saturday at 4.15 p.m. at Boundary Street:

Lt Crago, P/O Kimberley (HMAS Sydney), D. Ingles (Club), S/Lt Baldwin, REA Herton, S/M Scott, A. N. Other (HMAS Sydney), P/O Holman, P/O Rymme, L/S Miller, LSM Silver (HMAS Sydney), W. Horrocks (Club), MS Jacobs, POSM Holop (HMAS Sydney), E. S. Russell (Club).

SOCCER ON THE
INSIDE

(Edited by Marshall Fallows)

The white ball is "out" at Oldham... thrown out by manager George Hardwick, who has swapped the club's whole stock for the normal-type ball.

And here's the reason:—
"Our boys play far better when they keep the ball on the ground, but the waterproofed ball is so light it is almost impossible to keep it out of the air," says Hardwick.

"The referee can't order us to produce a white ball—he can only request it. If we have none there is nothing he can do about it."

Manager Jimmy Seed, of Charlton, another noted opponent of the white ball says: "I don't think we'll get rid of our stock, but I'll think twice before buying any more."

Harry Oliver, the former Brentford player, now caretaker half with Canterbury City (Kent League), has decided to call his newly born son Vic.

He says: "I'm naming him after Brentford's vice-president, Vic Oliver, who was always a good friend to me."

"The first day I joined the club he joked. This chap's bound to be a grand player with a name like Oliver."

Yes, vice-president Vic Oliver is the comedian.

There's a new temporary clerk in Bristol Rovers' office. He is Geoff Bradford, the club's crick marksman, now recovering from a knee operation.

He asked for the job to give himself an interest while his knee mends.

Bradford is making a quicker-than-expected recovery.

"I've got to watch him all the time or we find him nipping out of the office."

Crutches, says manager Bert Tait, who fetches and takes Bradford home in his car every day.

0.000 MILES
In 12 months since the scheme was inaugurated, Bob Parker, who lives at Womburn, near Wolverhampton, has travelled 6,000 miles (including two dashes by air) to give running commentaries on Nottingham Forest and Notts County home matches to hospitals throughout Nottinghamshire.

Harry Payne, 47-year-old Derby County director, donated a blue track suit and sprinted round the Baseball Ground—part of his keep fit campaign.

At the same time he was able to note the form of the players who were being coached by manager Jack Barker during their weekly practice match.

Mr Payne also played for Derbyshire Amateurs in an AFA Cup Final replay at Dulwich in the 1930s, scored nearly 1,000 goals in amateur soccer.

He appeared in all 11 positions during a career which ended only six years ago.

Brentford right-winger Jackie Goodwin is now a firm advocate of these useless footballs fitted with a valve.

He has just spent several days in hospital as the result of a knee in a ball tearing a gash in his knee just above the right eye.

Goodwin was at Griffin Park for the Christmas morning match with a large piece of plaster over the cut.

As always, when he is not playing, Jackie was lending an energetic and much appreciated helping hand in the dressing-room.

Leyton Orient manager Alec Stock spent New Year on Merseyside sizing up Tranmere Rovers, his club's opponents in the third round of the Cup.

Tranmere had two home games against Hartlepool on Friday, and Barrow on Saturday.

SEVEN YEARS
Chelsea right-half Ken Armstrong completed seven years with the Stamford Bridge club last month.

During that time he has made 248 League appearances, missing only 11 games since he became a "regular" five years ago.

The Bradford-born Armstrong, who went straight to Chelsea following wartime service in the Army, has, with typical Yorkshire thoroughness, already begun to plan a career when his footballing days are over.

He has taken courses in the sports retail business and in bookkeeping.

He also finds time to coach Soccer youngsters at schools in the Woking neighbourhood.

Bournemouth-Millwall matches are happy reunions for four ex-Portsmouth friends: Irish pivot Gerry Bowler of Millwall and three Bournemouth Scots, Jim Drummond (back), Bill Thompson (left-half), and Malcolm MacDonald (right-half).

They were teammates in the Portsmouth reserve side, which won the Combination Championship a few years back.

To Bill Lilling, a Cup Final referee who is honorary secretary of the Cambridgeshire FA, will

YES! THERE WERE GOLF
COURSES IN RUSSIA
FIFTY YEARS AGO

By HENRY LONGHURST

Blue skies and the appearance of primroses, periwinkles, violets, and one misguided hollyhock in full bloom in the garden fail to alter a long-standing personal conviction that the current season is one in which to contemplate golf rather than to play it.

This has been something of a vintage Christmas in this respect since a friend presented me with "Golfing Annual" of half a century ago.

We tend to think of "playing to par" as an American conception. The annual shows that par was imported from Britain, with bogey—which the Americans use as a term of contempt for one-over-par—used even here to denote a less exacting standard.

At Berhamsted, for instance, which still has a delightfully old-fashioned air about it, par was 38, bogey 41, and the record 39. The Old course at St Andrews was rated as par 75. The new course 78—and caddies at 1s. 6d. a round.

WHAT A COMMENTARY
What a commentary on our so-called golfing progress! The par at Muirfield was 74 and the record Professional, A. Herd 72. Amateur, F. G. Tait 73. So the great golfers of 50 years ago—and great they were—walked 5,890 yards for 72 shots. Now they walk 7,000 yards, plus another thousand to the back tees, for 55. The time was to come indeed when Hagen sailed round Muirfield in 67, and a wag from London sent the wire "Suggest play off back tees for remainder of championship."

In England pride of place went, of course, to The Royal Blackheath Club, instituted in 1698—with the footnote "Blackheath is under the control of the London County Council and no play is allowed after 8 a.m. without a fire candle carrying a red flag, and no play on Saturday after 2 p.m. There are seven holes played over three in competition. Next came Royal Weymouth, whose "urf is gravelly and uneven, with patches of remarkably coarse, tough grass."

Nineteen hundred and two goes down to history as H-year. Miss May Hezlet was the Lady Champion. Herd won the Open and Hutchings won the Amateur at Royal Weymouth. The English and Scottish International was also played at Weymouth—a club which, says the Editor, "will assuredly built large in the history of golf when it comes to be written, since they seemingly possess in a high degree the initiative faculty so sadly lacking in the governing body at St Andrews."

And that from an Edinburgh man.

That in turn was a vintage period with new clubs still springing up all over England, and the game, encouraged by Harry Vardon's "personal appearance," sweeping like a prairie fire across the United States.

The individual tallies of clubs: road: England 832, Scotland 605, Ireland 123, Wales 40, and the United States 700.

Not all of these represented courses. In Edinburgh alone, where the annual was edited, there were no fewer than 183 clubs—or golfing societies as we should now call them—many confined to employees of business houses, insurance companies or the Post Office, and others, like the Morningside Paris; Church G.C. and the Morningside United Free Church G.C., indicating perhaps a closer alliance between church and golf than exists today.

There was also, I notice, the Scottish Widows Fund G.C.—though whether this meant golfing widows it does not say.

Such minor fry were properly listed after the Honourable

BITTER CONTROVERSY
Perhaps the most fertile field for recapturing the flavour of the past is the advertisement. Here is Old Tom Morris endorsing somebody's mower and, of all people, Dr W. G.

And that from an Edinburgh man.

And that from an Edinburgh man.

And that from an Edinburgh man.

And that from an Edinburgh man.

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SCOTLAND'S SIX
SPORTSMEN
OF THE YEAR

By "MAC"

Pride of place among the men who did most of Scottish sport in 1953 goes to a golfer—Eric Brown. It was Eric who as an unattached professional succeeded in leading the "Open" field at the halfway stage, won the Irish "Open" and crowned his year by beating Lloyd Mangrum in the Ryder Cup.

Now, having accepted the post at Buchanan Castle, he has come back among us—we hope to stay. If he does not stimulate Scottish professional golf to great performances, then it is past help!

Running him close is another golfer, Hector Thomson, the man whom the Professional Golfers' Association have banned. Despite which he has succeeded in having a most successful year, highlighted by his performance in the American Open at Shanhur, tournament in which he finished equal first of the overseas players.

Thomson, like Brown, owes his place more to his independence of outlook than his actual performance.

He does not conform to all the rules laid down by the PGA. He doesn't care much whether he ever does, so long as he satisfies himself.

Good luck to him, say I. More than anything else, we need rebels to jog us out of the sporting rut.

THREE FOOTBALLERS
Three footballers qualified, in a year which nobody can claim as a good one for Soccer. At the top of the list, I put Willie Woodell. Purely as a player, he has made a magnificent comeback.

But much more important is that he gave up a good job in the interests of his club—and that, at the age of 32, he is demonstrating to Scotland's youngsters just how much can be done by complete concentration on the main task.

Waddell himself, of course, does not pretend to such high flown ambitions. His aim is merely to do well by Rangers, who have done so well for him. I suggest that if more players thought along the same lines, Scottish football prestige would not be at its present low ebb.

The other football player on the list is Walter Rutherford, Queen of the South, who has been many years in the game, most of them as a centre-half. In the early days

of this season, he was dropped from the Dumfries team.

He complained, not because he was out, but because he was twelfth man. He said he would rather be playing in the reserves anything, in fact, so long as he WAS playing. Now, at mid-right, he is his team's "general," in his leadership of the league which has astonished everybody outside the Dumfries circle.

One other wayside club has been big news lately—Stirling Albion. Which is another way of saying Tom Ferguson. I doubt if Football has ever known anybody quite like "Tam."

As managing director of Albion, he spends half his time being patted on the back for his side's remarkable achievement—and the other half struggling out of the hot water into which his outspoken ways lead him.

But Tom Ferguson made a club—literally—out of nothing. He built the ground, signed the team. He shouted at them, sacked them, cajoled them. He forgave them everything—except lack of fighting spirit.

AN ATHLETE
Now—an athlete... Len Blinn... already admitted as the greatest distance runner Scotland has ever produced. He has knocked over record after record. I have no doubt at all he will knock over many more.

But the essential is this—that he too has that "rebel" spirit, that "I-can-beat-them-all" outlook, which will not bear of defeat. Blinn's idea is that what one athlete can do, he can at least equal. To prove it he is prepared to train and sweat and sacrifice.

How a sixteen-year-old youngster could catch his disease, I don't know. (London Express Service)

St. John
Ambulance
Orders

Order by Mr Fung Ping-fan, D.S.O., Commissioner of St. John Ambulance Brigade, Hong Kong District, Order No. 1/54 dated January 7, 1954.

Ambulance Duties—Hong Kong—

10.14-10.15, 10.15-10.16, 10.16-10.17, 10.17-10.18, 10.18-10.19, 10.19-10.20, 10.20-10.21, 10.21-10.22, 10.22-10.23, 10.23-10.24, 10.24-10.25, 10.25-10.26, 10.26-10.27, 10.27-10.28, 10.28-10.29, 10.29-10.30, 10.30-10.31, 10.31-10.32, 10.32-10.33, 10.33-10.34, 10.34-10.35, 10.35-10.36, 10.36-10.37, 10.37-10.38, 10.38-10.39, 10.39-10.40, 10.40-10.41, 10.41-10.42, 10.42-10.43, 10.43-10.44, 10.44-10.45, 10.45-10.46, 10.46-10.47, 10.47-10.48, 10.48-10.49, 10.49-10.50, 10.50-10.51, 10.51-10.52, 10.52-10.53, 10.53-10.54, 10.54-10.55, 10.55-10.56, 10.56-10.57, 10.57-10.58, 10.58-10.59, 10.59-10.60, 10.60-10.61, 10.61-10.62, 10.62-10.63, 10.63-10.64, 10.64-10.65, 10.65-10.66, 10.66-10.67, 10.67-10.68, 10.68-10.69, 10.69-10.70, 10.70-10.71, 10.71-10.72, 10.72-10.73, 10.73-10.74, 10.74-10.75, 10.75-10.76, 10.76-10.77, 10.77-10.78, 10.78-10.79, 10.79-10.80, 10.80-10.81, 10.81-10.82, 10.82-10.83, 10.83-10.84, 10.84-10.85, 10.85-10.86, 10.86-10.87, 10.87-10.88, 10.88-10.89, 10.89-10.90, 10.90-10.91, 10.91-10.92, 10.92-10.93, 10.93-10.94, 10.94-10.95, 10.95-10.96, 10.96-10.97, 10.97-10.98, 10.98-10.99, 10.99-11.00, 11.00-11.01, 11.01-11.02, 11.02-11.03, 11.03-11.04, 11.04-11.05, 11.05-11.06, 11.06-11.07, 11.07-11.08, 11.08-11.09, 11.09-11.10, 11.10-11.11, 11.11-11.12, 11.12-11.13, 11.13-11.14, 11.14-11.15, 11.15-11.16, 11.16-11.17, 11.17-11.18, 11.18-11.19, 11.19-11.20, 11.20-11.21, 11.21-11.22, 11.22-11.23, 11.23-11.24, 11.24-11.25, 11.25-11.26, 11.26-11.27, 11.27-11.28, 11.28-11.29, 11.29-11.30, 11.30-11.31, 11.31-11.32, 11.32-11.33, 11.33-11.34, 11.34-11.35, 11.35-11.36, 11.36-11.37, 11.37-11.38, 11.38-11.39, 11.39-11.40, 11.40-11.41, 11.41-11.42, 11.42-11.43, 11.43-11.44, 11.44-11.45, 11.45-11.46, 11.46-11.47, 11.47-11.48, 11.48-11.49, 11.49-11.50, 11.50-11.51, 11.51-11.52, 11.52-11.53, 11.53-11.54, 11.54-11.55, 11.55-11.56, 11.56-11.57, 11.57-11.58, 11.58-11.59, 11.59-11.60, 11.60-11.61, 11.61-11.62, 11.62-11.63, 11.63-11.64, 11.64-11.65, 11.65-11.66, 11.66-11.67, 11.67-11.68, 11.68-11.69, 11.69-11.70, 11.70-11.71, 11.71-11.72, 11.72-11.73, 11.73-11.74, 11.74-11.75, 11.75-11.76, 11.76-11.77, 11.77-11.78, 11.78-11.79, 11.79-11.80, 11.80-11.81, 11.81-11.82, 11.82-11.83, 11.83-11.84, 11.84-11.85, 11.85-11.86, 11.86-11.87, 11.87-11.88, 11.88-11.89, 11.89-11.90, 11.90-11.91, 11.91-11.92, 11.92-11.93, 11.93-11.94, 11.94-11.95, 11.95-11.96, 11.96-11.97, 11.97-11.98, 11.98-11.99, 11.99-12.00, 12.00-12.01, 12.01-12.02, 12.02-12.03, 12.03-12.04, 12.04-12.05, 12.05-12.06, 12.06-12.07, 12.07-12.08, 12.08-12.09, 12.09-12.10, 12.10-12.11, 12.11-12.12, 12.12-12.13, 12.13-12.14, 12.14-12.15, 12.15-12.16, 12.16-12.17, 12.17-12.18, 12.18-12.19, 12.19-12.20, 12.20-12.21, 12.21-12.22, 12.22-12.23, 12.23-12.24, 12.24-12.25, 12.25-12.26, 12.26-12.27, 12.27-12.28, 12.28-12.29, 12.29-12.30, 12.30-12.31, 12.31-12.32, 12.32-12.33, 12.33-12.34, 12.34-12.35, 12.35-12.36, 12.36-12.37, 12.37-12.38, 12.38-12.39, 12.39-12.40, 12.40-12.41, 12.41-12.42, 12.42-12.43, 12.43-12.44, 12.44-12.45, 12.45-12.46, 12.46-12.47, 12.47-12.48, 12.48-12.49, 12.49-12.50, 12.50-12.51, 12.51-12.52, 12.52-12.53, 12.53-12.54, 12.54-12.55, 12.55-12.56, 12.56-12.57, 12.57-12.58, 12.58-12.59, 12.59-12.60, 12.60-12.61, 12.61-12.62, 12.62-12.63, 12.63-12.64, 12.64-12.65, 12.65-12.66, 12.66-12.67, 12.67-12.68, 12.68-12.69, 12.69-12.70, 12.70-12.71, 12.71-12.72, 12.72-12.73, 12.73-12.74, 12.74-12.75, 12.75-12.76, 12.76-12.77, 12.77-12.78, 12.78-12.79, 12.79-12.80, 12.80-12.81, 12.81-12.82, 12.82-12.83, 12.83-12.84, 12.84-12.85, 12.85-12.86, 12.86-12.87, 12.87-12.88, 12.88-12.89, 12.89-12.90, 12.90-12.91, 12.91-12.92, 12.92-12.93, 12.93-12.94, 12.94-12.95, 12.95-12.96, 12.96-12.97, 12.97-12.98, 12.98-12.99, 12.99-13.00, 13.00-13.01, 13.01-13.02, 13.02-13.03, 13.03-13.04, 13.04-13.05, 13.05-13.06, 13.06-13.07, 13.07-13.08, 13.08-13.09, 13.09-13.10, 13.10-13.11, 13.11-13.12, 13.12-13.13, 13.13-13.14, 13.14-13.15, 13.15-13.16, 13.16-13.17, 13.17-13.18, 13.18-13.19, 13.19-13.20, 13.20-13.21, 13.21-13.22, 13.22-13.23, 13.23-13.24, 13.24-13.25, 13.25-13.26, 13.26-13.27, 13.27-13.28, 13.28-13.29, 13.29-13.30, 13.30-13.31, 13.31-13.32, 13.32-13.33, 13.33-13.34, 13.34-13.35, 13.35-13.36, 13.36-13.37, 13.37-13.38, 13.38-13.39, 13.39-13.40, 13.40-13.41, 13.41-13.42, 13.42-13.43, 13.43-13.44, 13.44-13.45, 13.45-13.46, 13.46-13.47, 13.47-13.48, 13.48-13.49, 13.49-13.50, 13.50-13.51, 13.51-13.52, 13.52-13.53, 13.53-13.54, 13.54-13.55, 13.55-13.56, 13.56-13.57, 13.57-13.58, 13.58-13.59, 13.59-13.60, 13.60-13.61, 13.61-13.62, 13.62-13.63, 13.63-13.64, 13.64-13.65, 13.65-13.66, 13.66-13.67, 13.67-13.68, 13.68-13.69, 13.69-13.70, 13.70-13.71, 13.71-13.72, 13.72-13.73, 13.73-13.74, 13.74-13.75, 13.75-13.76, 13.76-13.77, 13.77-13.78, 13.78-13.79,

BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO			
"FUNGING"	Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar	8 p.m.	8th Jan.
"FENGTIEN"	Bangkok	8 a.m.	9th Jan.
ARRIVALS FROM			
"YUCHOW"	Bangkok		10th Jan.
"YUNNAN"	Shanghai		10th Jan.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO			
"TAIPING"	Kobe & Yokohama		10th Jan.
ARRIVALS FROM			
"CHANGSHA"	Yokohama	p.m.	9th Jan.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said			
	Leaves	Sails	
"ANCHISE"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Jan.	14th Jan.
"CLYDEBANK"	Liverpool & Dublin	22nd Jan.	23rd Jan.
"ASTYANAX"	Glasgow, London, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Liverpool	24th Jan.	25th Jan.
"PYRRHUS"	Marcellus, Liverpool	5th Feb.	6th Feb.
"EUMAEUS"	Glasgow & Liverpool	13th Feb.	14th Feb.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe			
	Leaves	Sails	Arrives
S. "ASTYANAX"	Liverpool	Sailed	8th Jan.
G. "PYRRHUS"	do	Sailed	13th Jan.
S. "EUMAEUS"	do	Sailed	25th Jan.
G. "ASTYANAX"	do	Sailed	28th Jan.
S. "AGATHA"	do	Sailed	7th Feb.
G. "TELEUS"	7th Jan.	13th Jan.	13th Feb.
S. "AUTOMEDON"	18th Jan.	22nd Feb.	28th Feb.
G. "ATREUS"	24th Jan.	28th Feb.	28th Feb.

G. Loading Glasgow, before Liverpool. S. Loading Swansea, before Liverpool.

Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

De La Rama Lines

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS.

	Sails N.Y.	Sails S.F.	Arr. H.K.
"DONA AURORA"	18th Jan.	18th Jan.	18th Jan.
"DONA ALICIA"	—	—	28th Jan.
"BATAAN"	—	—	10th Feb.
"MUNCASTER CASTLE"	18th Jan.	6th Feb.	7th Mar.
"TELEMACHUS"	25th Jan.	16th Feb.	18th Mar.

SAILING for NEW YORK, via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES & CRISTOBAL.

	Leaves	Sails
"HAINAN"	18th Jan.	8th Jan.
"DONA AURORA"	17th Feb.	18th Feb.
"DONA ALICIA"	4th Mar.	5th Mar.

Accept cargo for Kingston and to Central & South American ports on through bills of lading.

Tathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

Route	Depart	Arrive
HK/Singapore (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Monday	10:00 a.m. Tuesday
HK/Bangkok/Singapore (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Manila/B.N. Hornoe (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Manila/B.N. Hornoe (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Manila/B.N. Hornoe (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Manila/B.N. Hornoe (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Manila/B.N. Hornoe (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Manila/B.N. Hornoe (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Manila/B.N. Hornoe (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Manila/B.N. Hornoe (DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Wednesday

All the above subject to Alteration without notice.

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Butterfield & Swire (Hongkong) Ltd.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CONSIGNEES FOR

AUSTRALIA-NEW PACIFIC LINE

M.S. "CITUS"

are hereby notified that their cargo

is being discharged into the Hong-

kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown

Co's godown where it will be at

consignee's risk and subject to the

condition of storage, and where de-

livery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left

in the godown for examination by

Consignee and the Company's sur-

vectors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke

at 10 a.m. on the 8th January, 1954.

To comply with the General Bonded

Warehouse Regulations, consignees

must have a Revenue Officer in

attendance when damaged dutiable

goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after

the goods have left the steamer's

godown, and all goods remaining

undelivered after the 8th January,

1954, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer

must be presented to the Under-

secretary on or before the 15th January,

1954, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.

Agents.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1954.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CONSIGNEES FOR

NIIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

M.S. "SHUNKO MARU"

M.S. "NO. 1 DAISETSU MARU"

are hereby notified that their cargo

is being discharged into the Hong-

kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown

Co's godown where it will be at

consignee's risk and subject to the

Wharf's terms and condition of

storage, and where delivery may be

obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left

in the godown for examination by

Consignee and the Company's sur-

vectors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke

at 10 a.m. on the 11th January, 1954.

All claims against the steamer

must be presented to the Under-

secretary on or before the 15th January,

1954, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.

Agents.

Hongkong, 7th January, 1954.

U.S. Govt. Must Control Atomic Production

New York, Jan. 6.

Atomic Energy Commissioner

Eugene Bueker, said that the

U.S. Government must main-

tain control over atomic pro-

duction "as long as this world

exists in troubled half-peace."

He told the 58th Congress of

American industry that

"Atomic material is an

essential resource of our

national defense and must be

used in the national interest."

Mr. Bueker told the Congress,

sponsored by the National

Association of Manufacturers,

that the Government was doing

all it could to permit private in-

dustry to have a share of atomic

development.

But, he said, "so long as

atomic weapons are important

and indeed, even if they are to

be controlled as an indispensable

element of any world disarm-

ament plan—there will and should

be inevitably a real role for

Government in the development

and regulation of this new

energy."

He recommended that any

new atomic legislation enacted

by Congress "be flexible and

give a high degree of discretion

to the Atomic Energy Commis-

sion in administering the Gov-

ernment's part of the partici-

pating partnership with indus-

try."

"I am confident," he said,

"that attempts to spell out too

precisely (in new legislation)

what may be done would be out-

moded swiftly by the brisk and

steady march of scientific pro-

gress in this new field."

United Press.

A-Bomb Proof Fortress In London

London, Jan. 6.

The construction of one of the

first centres from which civil

defence would be directed in

case of an atomic attack on

London is now finished.

This underground fortress is

located in the Southwark

District in southeast London and

can be reached by descending 16

steps of a spiral staircase.

The steel and concrete doors

are painted in red. On the li-

vide are the inscriptions reading

"Radio-active. Keep out" and

"Escape Hatch."—France-Press.

Reward For Bravery—Citizenship Of USA

Washington, Jan. 6.

Representative Francis E.

Walter asked Congress today to

reward Basil Theodosiou, an

heroic Greek seaman, by making

him eligible for United States

citizenship.

Walter, co-author of the pre-

sent Immigration Act, introduced

a special bill on the opening day

of Congress which would grant

Theodosiou permanent resi-

dence in the United States.

A private bill is necessary be-

cause the immigration quota for

Greece is exhausted.

Walter met Theodosiou

aboard the French liner Ile de

France during a trip to Europe

last Autumn, said that the 27-

year-old radio operator played a

big role in saving 27 men when

their small Greek freighter cap-

sized in a North Atlantic storm.

Theodosiou, he said, patched

up the freighter's wrecked

radio equipment, rigged a make-

shift aerial and kept broadcast-

ing distress signals until the tiny

ship slid beneath the sea.

The Ile de France picked up

the signals and saved the

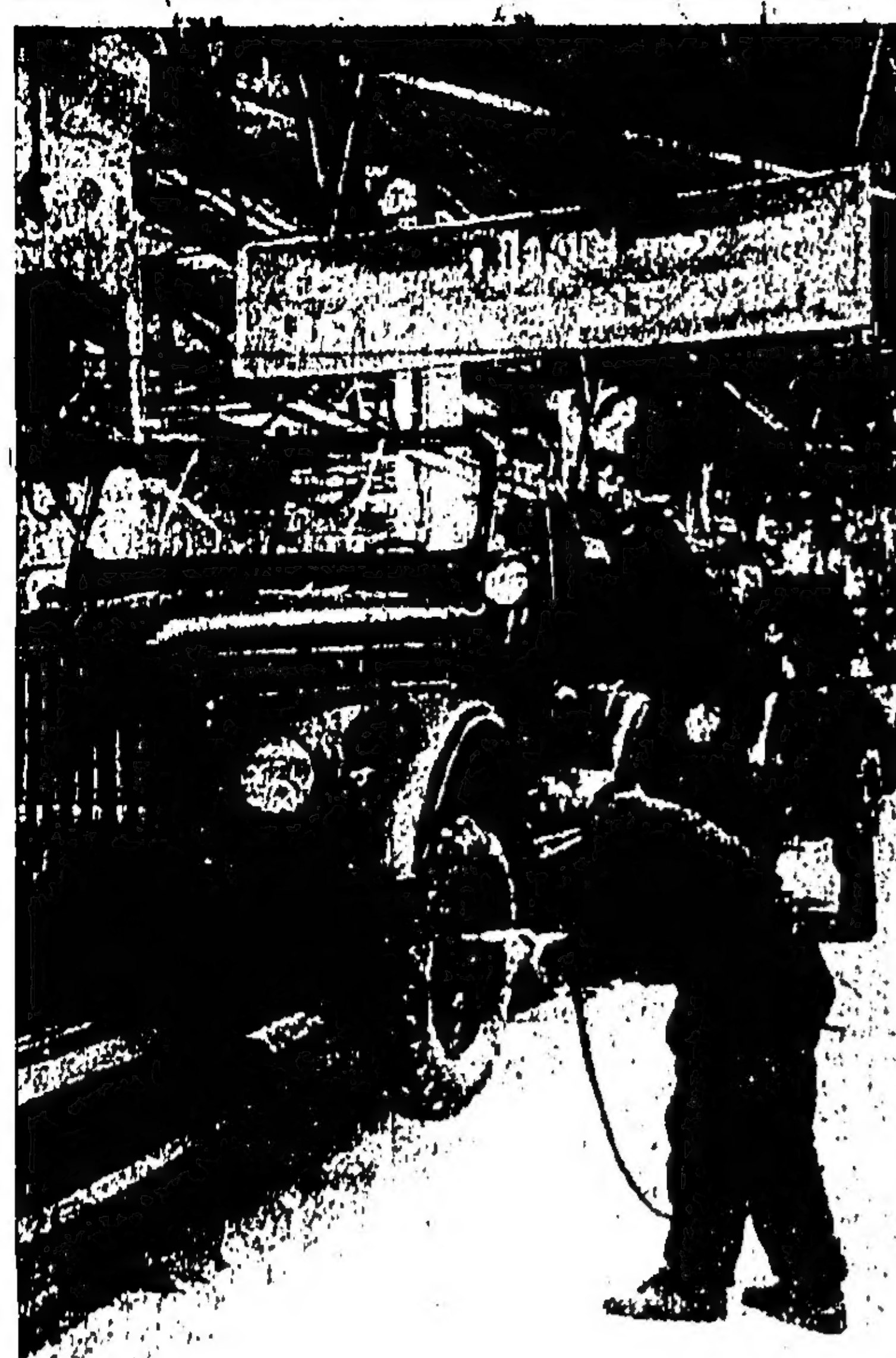
scene.—United Press.

Ava Gardner To Play In New Film

Rome, Jan. 6.

Mr. Joseph L. Mankiewicz,

director of "All About Eve," has



Picture from behind the "Iron Curtain" of a Gaz-69 road transport vehicle being completed at the Molotov Automobile Plant in Leningrad. The new vehicle has two driving axles and is designed for use on the rough roads of the Soviet countryside. —Express Photo.

Brandy, Ink And Silk Now Come From The Norwegian Pine

Oslo, Jan. 6.

Silk, drinkable alcohol, B vitamins, ink, explosives and vanilla flavouring are some of the varied and unlikely things now being produced from Norwegian forests.

The highly developed wood processing industry in this country is rapidly moving over from mere paper, pulp and wall-board manufacture to the production and processing of new chemicals, for which the plentiful Norwegian pine and spruce trees are the main raw materials.

With one quarter of the country covered by productive forests, it is not surprising that the forestry industry has long been one of the most important in Norway's economy.

A full ten centuries ago, during and even before the Viking period, Norway was already exporting timber and wood products to countries overseas. But through the centuries the best care has not always been taken of the great natural resources comprised in the rich Norwegian forests. Early agriculturists burnt down the trees to cultivate crops in the ashes. At a later date, when the discovery of various ores in the mountains led to a flourishing ore-mining industry, hundreds of acres of birch and pine forests were felled for charcoal burning. Then, areas which for centuries had been sheltered by thick forests were laid bare, and the trees would not grow again.

STARTED IN 1847

So, today, with so many demands being made on them, Norwegian forests are scarcely meeting the requirements of the highly developed modern industry which has grown up since the first Norwegian cellulose, or chemically-prepared wood pulp, factory was built near Sarpsborg in 1847.

Today, there are 42 mechanical wood pulp factories in Norway, 20 chemical wood pulp factories, and 49 for manufacturing paper, cardboard, carton and wall-board. It is estimated that, at full production, they consume 100,000 logs of timber each day, 30,000,000 logs every year, or enough to stretch five times round the world at the Equator.

The value of exports from the wood processing industry now amounts to between one quarter and one third of Norway's total exports.

RAYON TOO

Rayon, so widely used today in textiles, is a typical product of chemical wood pulp. Through a series of processes, the timber is first converted into cellulose, which comprises the basis for the manufacture of paper as well as of rayon.

With the addition of lye and carbon bi-sulphide, the cellulose is transformed into a yellowish-brown powder, which is subsequently dissolved in another lye solution to emerge as a light brown syrupy substance known as viscose.

The viscose is then filtered and forced through a jet with thousands of microscopic holes, the smallest of which are no more than seven hundredths of a millimetre in diameter. Upon emerging, the viscose strands enter a bath of sulphuric acid which causes them to coagulate into threads which

Idyllic Life Of The Fijians Gone Forever

Suva Fiji, Jan. 6.

Life is losing some of its idyllic qualities for the native people of the tropical Fiji Islands. More carefree days when the Fijian could be content with a tawny-thatched house in which to live and a diet taken from the sea, the coral reefs and the mangrove swamps, seem gone for ever.

If he is to win the battle for economic survival in his own country, the Fijian today must change his ways.

For today, the Fijians are faced with rapidly growing competition from the Indian population, whose rate of increase threatens ultimately to swamp the indigenous race—even though the Fijians themselves are increasing in number.

To meet this threat, the Fijians have been told that they must produce more and more cash crops.

Their communally owned land reserves—which they hold under clear-cut pledges from Britain to maintain sufficient land for Fijian needs now and in the foreseeable future—are eyed with open covetousness by non-Fijians.

But the authorities have made it clear to the Fijians that their reserve must be used to the full. The Governor, Sir Ronald Garvey, made this point in opening the Budget session of the Fijian Legislative Council recently.

DEVELOP THE LAND

The Fijian monetary system, he said, had narrow foundations and was largely at a subsistence level. As a matter of urgency, the Fijian people should adopt measures to broaden the basis of their agricultural production by developing their land to the fullest extent.

He said the Fijian Social Service legislation should be amended to make growing and maintenance of economic crops a communal activity, to ensure that they do make full use of their land.

He suggested that what he called "development officers" should be appointed to see that this was carried out.

Their task, for example, would be to see that sugar cane crops are sown at the right time and properly tended, and that coconut groves are enlarged and kept free from undergrowth. Sir Ronald added that if the traditional social structure of the Fijians and communal organisation came into conflict with economic development, "adaptations may be necessary."

REMARKABLE PROGRESS

This does not mean that the Fijians do not already make an enormous contribution to the overall economy of the islands. The Governor cited examples of what he described as "remarkable progress" made by the people in the last 50 years.

Today, Fijians account for more than half the colony's output of copra, Fiji's second largest industry.

The banana export trade to New Zealand is entirely in Fijian hands.

Goldmining, the third largest industry, would be helpless without hundreds of capable Fijian workers.

Waterside work at the ports is a Fijian reserve, and nearly all other forms of production are largely dependent on Fijians.

There is also today a gradual expansion of Fijian sugar cane farming, which accounts for six per cent of the total output of this mainly Indian industry.

DRASTIC SKIMMING

In addition, there is the fairly drastic skimming of Fijian youth for the army in Fiji, and for the four-year stay of the Fijian 1st Battalion in Malaya.

For unknown reasons, the total number of men serving with the Fiji Military Forces is not made public, but it is known that between 800 and 900 Fijian soldiers are in Malaya.

If the young soldiers serving in Fiji were added, the proportion of young men withdrawn from civilian life would be considerably higher than elsewhere in the Commonwealth.

There are also complicating factors, such as the incidence of tuberculosis. Fijians are by far the greatest sufferers from tuberculosis in Fiji, though exact figures are not published. But, these factors, alone will not prevent the Fijians from being economically and numerically swamped by the Indians, and they may have to make changes in their way of life, to meet the need for economic development of a new state within a new state.

Russian Gold Boosts U.K. Dollar Earnings

By SYDNEY CAMPBELL
(Reuters's Financial Editor)

London, Jan. 6.

Britain's gold and dollar reserves fell by only \$43 million during December despite a payment of \$181 million on her North American debts at the end of the year, the Treasury announced.

The gold and dollar reserves now stand at \$2,618 million, it added.

The reserves had increased in every one of the previous 11 months of 1953. Without the annual debt payment on New Year's eve December would have shown an increase of \$133 million.

The debt payment apart, December was the best month of the year for the gold and dollar reserves, thanks partly, though not wholly, to the Bank of England's recent big receipts of Russian gold.

Britain could hardly have sent the actual Russian gold bars to Washington and Ottawa, to meet the year-end payments. But the Russian gold undoubtedly helped Britain to meet the annual payment of the North American loans which she raised in 1949, and which she has to repay in annual instalments for the rest of this century.

BEST FIGURE

Excluding the debt payment the earned surplus with the world outside the European Payments Union area jumped from \$32 million in November to \$114 million in December, by far the best figure of the year. Some of this striking improvement must have been due to the Russian gold.

Official quarters refuse to disclose how much Russian gold the Bank of England has received. An unofficial guess is that Russian gold might comprise roughly half of the \$114 million.

A Treasury spokesman pointed out that, however much might be ascribed to Russian gold, a substantial part of the December improvement must have been due to the other and presumably less sporadic causes. Provisionally the Treasury also announced that Britain had a deficit in December with the European Payments Union of \$23,100,000, contrasting with a surplus of \$3,200,000 in November.

DEBT REPAYMENT

Almost the whole of the December EPU deficit was also due to a debt repayment of the half-yearly interest payment on Britain's overdraft with the Union. Receipts of defence aid from the United States fell from \$24 million in November to \$22 million in December.

During December Australia raised in the International Monetary Fund \$12 million of the \$50 million that Australia had drawn from the Fund in 1949 and 1952.

If this Australian debt payment also came from the sterling area's central reserves in London it can be calculated that the sterling area in December earned a world surplus of \$126 million.

This was by far the best showing for any month of the year competing with a surplus of only \$41 million in November and with an actual deficit of \$15 million in October. The reserves may have benefited from some Russian gold in November too, though probably far less than in December.

London Wool Tops

London, Jan. 6.

The wool tops futures market closed steady with a turnover of 75 lots. Closing futures prices were:

January	144 1/2
February	144 1/2
March	144 1/2
April	144 1/2
May	144 1/2
June	144 1/2
July	144 1/2
August	144 1/2
September	144 1/2
October	144 1/2
November	144 1/2
December	144 1/2

Prices were for the United States. New York Jan. 6. Wool tops futures closed today steady. Prices:

January	144 1/2
February	144 1/2
March	144 1/2
April	144 1/2
May	144 1/2
June	144 1/2
July	144 1/2
August	144 1/2
September	144 1/2
October	144 1/2
November	144 1/2
December	144 1/2

But Long-Term Price Agreements Needed With America

By PATRICK MAITLAND, M.P.

London, Jan. 6.

When Chancellor R. A. Butler meets other Commonwealth Finance Ministers in Australia on Friday, their talks will be largely governed by the possibilities of an American slump.

Nevertheless, the ministers are reported generally to accept the American Government analysis suggesting that no serious set-back, beyond easily manageable limits, need be expected.

On that assumption they will first review the balance of payments position. For the whole Sterling Area there is a marked improvement with the dollar market. This has been achieved by sheer hard work and tightening of belts. The reserves have risen about £100,000,000 since last year.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$747,490.10. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions—

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS GALEN

BANKS

HK Bank .. 1805 20 @ 1853

20 @ 1850

INSURANCES

Lombard .. 54 100 @ 55 1/2

Union .. 80 8 @ 81

Underwriters

SHIPPING

Waterboat .. 40.40

Asia Nav. .. 1.18

DOCKS, ETC.

Wharf .. 12

Provident .. 12.30

Shal Dock .. 1.20

Wheelock .. 7.50

LAND, ETC.

HK Hotel .. 6.05

10K Hotel .. 7.15

Shal Land .. 1.40

Really .. 1.82 1/2, 1.97 1/2, 8.00 @ 1.95

UTILITIES

Term .. 27.40 27.60 200 @ 27.40

200 @ 27.15

Star Ferry .. 14.10 14.30 1,000 @ 14.20

C. Light (N) 11.10 11.20 700 @ 11.15

300 @ 11.20

1,000 @ 11.20

Electric .. 23.60 20 300 @ 23.70

140 @ 23.50

1,000 @ 23.50

Metco Elec. .. 10.70

Telephone .. 27.20 27.40

INDUSTRIALS

Cement .. 19.10 19.30 200 @ 19.20

1,000 @ 19.20

Rope .. 10.00 17.10

Metal Indus. 3.90 1,000 @ 1.95

1,000 @ 1.95

STORES, ETC.

Dairy .. 23.60 500 @ 23.70

700 @ 23.80

Watson .. 22.10 700 @ 22.20

1,000 @ 22.10

L. Crawford 22.30

COTTONS

Textile Corp. 7.80 2 500 @ 7.95

2,500 @ 7.90

3,000 @ 7.80

MISCELLANEOUS

Yangtze .. 6 1/2 6.30

New York Cotton Market

New York, Jan. 6.

Cotton futures today opened steady and closed firm with trading broadening out a little more on the gradual rise.

Scoring gains up to around \$1 a bale, the market reached the highest level in five weeks. Nearby May went over the 33 1/2 cents mark for a cumulative rise of almost \$3 a bale from the seasonal low made on Dec. 18.

Factors generating the main price-lifting power included: 1. Prospects for favourable farm legislation; 2. Strengthening hopes for an early pick-up in export buying of American cotton; and 3. The raw cotton surplus in strategic reserve.

United Press

Exchange Rates

London, Jan. 6.

Wool tops futures closed today steady. Prices:

January

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

But the very grimness of the struggle to attain such an improvement carries a lesson. There is little margin of earning over expenditure to furnish a capital fund for large-scale investment. Yet it is obvious that vastly increased capital investment is required in many branches of industry.

Here, in an authoritative view that only, of course, reflects opinions held in one of the Governments involved, lies the most anxious problem before the conference.

FABULOUS RESOURCES

There are fabulous resources. Oil has just been struck in Australia. There is timber and a promising pulp industry in New Zealand in addition to that country's wealthy farm production. The African continent is literally studded with minerals, some of them rare.

Such is the broad opportunity that, at some stage, of the Commonwealth Governments now wish to grasp. They observe that while, with great effort, the sterling area's dollar balance has improved and the need for American aid is being mastered, with other countries, notably Latin America, progress has been disappointing.

At the same time they note that Germany and Japan, in their energetic and sometimes state-aided trade drives, are proving bold and often exacting competitors.

It all poses the problem whether the sterling area as a whole, with Canada's infinitely welcome (and wealthy) co-operation, cannot, as it were, jump a rung or two of the ladder and, by really daring projects of capital investment, so raise productivity that competition can be met.

In broadest outline the vision of world trade that lies ahead stays unchanged. It is estimated that the expanding industrial market of the United States will in twenty-five years need about double the raw materials now consumed, and that these can be profitably provided by the countries of the Commonwealth and Empire, alongside the other European dependencies.

HIGHEST QUESTION

In turn, all West Europe needs invest its engineering skill in the areas which produce the raw materials.

But in a preliminary view, the biggest question is how, by exertion or other devices, savings may be gained and trade expanded to arrive at the margin of production that can be made available for investment.

A solution put forward in some of the memoranda circulated in advance of the conference implies that one key may be found in freeing commodity markets.

The conference will therefore return to a familiar and not always easy subject—how to reach, with the United States and other consuming countries, long-term commodity price agreements.

On this matter the American Government has shown itself cautious. Nor is there much prospect of firm conclusions being reached in American economic policy until the Spring. But the Commonwealth's "Plan" which includes provision for commodity agreements and for freeing commodity markets and for freeing sterling, lies before the United States Government. Its conclusions on economic policy will be taken in the light of the "Plan".

Finance Ministers need to plan their investment policies for the Commonwealth, on the two opposite assumptions: either that the U.S. will assist convertibility or that she will not. The conclusions reached, as is to be expected, are not far removed from the worst case assumption, namely that the U.S. will not assist convertibility.

Japan Using Dollars To Pay Britain

Tokyo, Jan. 6.

Japan will probably have to continue using dollars to finance her deficit in her trade with the sterling area unless she gets short term sterling credit as a result of the current Anglo-Japanese trade and payments talks in London, financial circles said here today.

A spokesman of the Finance Ministry agreed that Japan in effect spent dollars last year to honour her sterling commitments incurred in the form of exchange swaps.

He expressed belief that the dollars Japan paid to the International Monetary Fund to get fresh supplies of sterling last year would contribute to lessening Britain's dollar obligations.

WITHOUT LOSING FACE

An officer of the Bank of Tokyo said this was a compromise measure to let Japan use dollars to get sterling without losing much face.

He was of the opinion that it would be very difficult for Japan to cut her imports from the sterling area drastically.

Japan therefore badly needs either short term credit to tide over her present sterling shortage, or some form of financial arrangement such as an open account (clearing) agreement with the sterling area which would allow for temporary trade deficit.

Otherwise she would have to continue using dollars to finance part of her imports from the sterling area, he said.—China Mail Special.

US Commodity Markets

New York, Jan. 6.

Leading commodity futures closed higher today. Grains were mixed.

Cocoa and coffee again supplied trading leadership as the futures levels in the highest point of the year. Grains felt the weight of realising and hedge-selling which offset improved domestic flour demand.

At Chicago, wheat closed up 1/2 to 3/4 cent; soybeans, off 1/4 to 3/8 cent.

At Winnipeg, wheat was priced at 180 1/2 cents per bushel for No. 3 Northern, and for Northern No. 4, it was at 185 cents.—United Press.

CHICAGO GRAIN

Chicago, Jan. 6.

Prices per bushel in cents:

Wheat, No. 3, red	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, hard	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, soft	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, white	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, yellow	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, green	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, black	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, blue	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, purple	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, brown	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, grey	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, pink	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, tan	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, olive	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, silver	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, gold	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, bronze	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, copper	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, iron	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, steel	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, tin	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, lead	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, zinc	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, nickel	180 1/2
Wheat, No. 3, cobalt	180 1/2

